

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4045

~~but had no inquiries.~~

Wednesday, 8 Jan., Washington; clear and warm. Working on the livestock address. After luncheon at the Cosmos Club Director Steuart came over to my table and said the Secretary of Commerce had spoken to him about me. He suggested that I see Mr. Austin, who was in charge of the agricultural section of the census work. I immediately telephoned Mr. Austin and arranged for an appointment for the next afternoon.

At 5 p.m. wife and I went to the Unitarian Church on 16th Street where the Grange supper was to be held. Wife was in charge of the table decorations and took much pride in her work. I acted as one of the ushers. Mr. Dunlap, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, was installed as Master. On coming out a Mrs. McPherson, Lecturer of the Bryantown Grange, asked if I would give them a travel talk and I consented on condition that it would not interfere with official engagements.

Thursday, 9 Jan. Washington; I called on Mr. Austin at the Census Bureau. He called in his assistant, Mr. Pierce. Both were very friendly and we discussed the three or four higher positions still open in the agricultural section of the Bureau, ranging in salary from \$4,000 to \$5,600 a year. Mr. Austin mentioned the position that Dr. Durand had referred to, that of specialist to formulate definitions for use in the 1935 census, study the results of the 1930 census as it progressed, interpret its results, and formulate plans for the succeeding census. He said this position had been recommended by a committee of which Dr. Durand was a member, and he suggested that I consult with Messrs. Gray and Baker of my own bureau.

Returning to my office I found a letter from Mr. Longobardi saying that by vote of the Permanent Committee I had been designated

as "Chef du service honoraire" of the International Institute of Agriculture. *P*I called upon Drs. Gray and Baker and found them cordial. Both seemed to be under the impression that I was no longer connected with the Bureau but had retired. Dr. Gray said that a new position had been created by Congress, that of Assistant Director of the Census, and that I had been recommended for the position. I discussed with them the position of census expert mentioned by Dr. Durand and both said they would like to see me get it but that Dr. Durand would probably have the final say in the matter. Both said that probably Mr. Steuart would not last more than two or three years and that Dr. Durand would probably be the next Director of the Census, if he should want it. *P*~~Mr. Hoxx~~ Both expressed the opinion that Mr. Hobson had been extremely lucky in reaching Washington just when he did and accidentally meeting Prof. Gay who had been asked by the Federal Farm Board to outline an organization and who asked Mr. Hobson to help him because he had just returned from Europe. Mr. Hobson's work in Washington was the outcome of that chance meeting at that particular time. I explained to Messrs. Gray and Baker that I was still in the service of the bureau, never having been separated from it, that I had no intention of resigning, and that I expected the Bureau to utilize my long experience and special knowledge of foreign agriculture and organization, but that Mr. Hobson seemed to have slipped in surreptitiously and monopolized the field. They seemed surprised at this statement. As I walked back to the office I had plenty of food for thought. Why was it that the impression was spread in my own bureau that I was no longer connected with it?

Then what a striking example that chance or pure luck plays in human affairs. My friend, Mr. Hobson, happened to be in Washington ^{met} the week the Federal Farm Board ~~begin~~ to organize. They had engaged Prof. Gay, an economist and statistician of reputation, to organize

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4047

their foreign information service. Dr.A.E.Taylor of the Food Research Foundation was also engaged either by Prof.Gay or by the Board. Mr.Hobson was acquainted with both Dr.Gay and Dr.Taylor. By chance they met Mr.Hobson fresh from Europe and seven years service with the International Institute of Agriculture and acquainted with ~~the~~ most of the professor^{ial} economists of Europe. He was just the man, they thought, to help them organize the foreign information service of the Farm Board, and upon their recommendation he was engaged. Mr.Hobson recommended that instead of setting up a new and separate division for collecting foreign data or of transferring to the Farm Board the Foreign Division of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics as had been proposed, the Board should make an allotment of funds for expanding the Foreign Division and leave it where it was, in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The Board agreed to do this on condition that Mr.Hobson should be made chief of the Foreign Division. The administrative officials of the Bureau naturally desired to see their Foreign Division service expanded and they took advantage of this opportunity to obtain additional funds necessary for the purpose and Mr.Hobson was duly appointed. Pure chance, this conjuncture of an emergency organization with ample funds and authority, its members ordered by the President to assemble in Washington to organize, the employment of economists and statisticians to draw up a program, and the fortuitous presence of Mr.Hobson in Washington at that particular time and his apparent qualifications for organizing the foreign service of the Farm Board.

The action of the Federal Farm Board and of the Department of Agriculture in employing Mr.Hobson at that time was perfectly logical. The officials of those departments did not know Mr.Hobson's limitations, the fact that he had blundered in his dealings

with the International Institute of Agriculture, that he knew little of the agriculture of the United States, little more of the agriculture of Europe, and nothing at all of the agriculture of the rest of the world, or of the organization of agriculture and governments to promote agriculture throughout the world, or that he was handicapped by an intense hatred of the officials of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome and that because of that hatred he had so managed that the United States had withdrawn support and cooperation from the Institute, and that if he were placed in charge of the foreign service of the Farm Board and of the Department of Agriculture he would set out, as he did, to duplicate the work of the Institute. ~~Perfectly logical was the selection of Mr. Hobson for this work because those who did the selecting~~
^{nor did they}
~~ing did not~~ know of his ~~limitations~~, his lack of practical experience in administration, his lack of knowledge of administrative organization in the countries from which information was to be obtained, ^{his ignorance of world agriculture,} and his bias due to personal animosities. In the circumstances I could neither blame ⁿor criticise the officials of the Farm Board or the Department of Agriculture for employing Mr. Hobson nor Mr. Hobson for cancelling his contract with the Gianini Foundation and maneuvering for the position. I still regarded Mr. Hobson as a friend and I believed he would overcome his handicap of lack of practical experience in administration and organization and his ignorance of world agriculture because I knew that he was able, a qualified economist, and that his selfconfidence and selfassurance and energy would inspire confidence in others. So it turned out. But what I could not understand was Mr. Hobson's attitude toward me-- he who had always been so friendly, so frank in discussing his official difficulties and plans, and now he was secretive and reticent. We occupied adjoining rooms and yet we were like strangers, greeting

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4049

each other like old acquaintances who had long been separated and grown apart. I was intensely interested in the organization and development of the foreign service, but because of the reticence of Mr. Hobson and the administrative officials of my bureau I would ask no questions, simply shut up like a clam and felt hurt. If Mr. Hobson had simply taken me into his confidence for five minutes it would have helped me greatly just at that time. However, enough of that.

I returned to the office at 4 p.m. and telephoned to the office of Dr. Durand to make an appointment, but he was absent. I listened to the radio for awhile. Worked on my line-a-day book. Wife had to be very careful of her diet because of the distress caused by some ice cream she ate at the Grange supper. Thermometer registered 74 degrees in the afternoon.

Friday, 10 Jan., Washington; fair and colder. In response to a telephone call I went to the office of Dr. Durand. He said that he had proposed my appointment as Assistant Director of the Census, but that the appointment was opposed by Mr. Steuart, the Director, who was an old man and wanted to run the whole show himself; that he had organized the bureau into about twenty divisions, each to report directly to him, but no provision had been made for teamwork or cooperation between the divisions, and that the Director's sole idea was to cut down expenses regardless of results; that the entire administrative staff of the departments in Washington had been combed to get men who could work with Mr. Steuart and to help organize the greatest census so far undertaken in the United States, and that I was regarded as the one man best qualified for the position. He advised me not to accept a subordinate position or a low salary unless I was willing to remain in the service until ^{the} 1940 census. He said frankly that my age was considered a handicap

(1920, Jan. Washington)

E--4050

and it was feared that I had lost "pep." However, he said that everything was favorable and he would push the matter through with the Secretary of Commerce. He added that if this venture failed he would consider me for the position of specialist in economics for the census. He said that the salary for the last named position would be not less than \$6,000 and probably \$6,500.

I came away encourage^d to believe that there might be something in the last proposal. As to the first, I knew Mr. Steuart and realized that if he were opposed to my appointment as his assistant, that settled it; because I also knew that through his patronage of census positions outside of the ~~Civil~~ Civil Service law he was all powerful with Congress, even more powerful than the Secretary of Commerce; and so it proved. Had I been of a different disposition I would have won Mr. Steuart's consent to my appointment by bringing political pressure to bear. I could have gone to the Illinois delegation in Congress and asked support on the ground of my birth and relatives in Illinois, to the Texas delegation on the ground that I was a legal resident of that State, and to the Maryland delegation on the ground that I was a property owner, tax payer and prospective resident of ~~Mary~~ Maryland, and their support would have done the trick because I could point to a definite position that was vacant, I was competent, and my appointment was advocated by the technical adviser of the Department of Commerce, ~~and~~ the Secretary of Commerce was more than favorable, and the appointment would have the support of the officials of the Department of Agriculture where most of my record for successful achievement had been made. But all this was contrary to my experience and my theory that position and preferment should seek the man rather than that the man should seek either and I could not bring myself to take any steps in that direction. No, it was my proud boast that I

(1930, Jan, Washington)

E--4051

had entered the civil service through a competitive examination and for more than a third of a century recognition and advancement had come to me solely as the result of hard work and efficient service, automatically as it were, and with never a hint of political or other outside influence of any kind. I felt that this was as it should be, and I was proud of my government that such things could be. No, if after the long record of successful achievement I had established recognition could not come as a matter of course, then to hell with the system that had grown up during my absence ^{from} ~~for~~ the department, I was through, and that was all there was to it.

I returned to my little office and revised manuscript for the livestock meeting. Dr. Galpin came in and talked about sources of information on sociology in South America, Africa, and Australia. Had luncheon at Child's on the Avenue. Had a short interview with Mr. Callander, who was always smiling and friendly but secretive and very selfconfident. He again referred to the improvements in the crop reporting service. I said I was gratified to see how well he was carrying out the program I had outlined in great detail in 1919. At the house worked on line-a-day book. In the evening the ^hJonstons spent two or three hours with us. Entertaining but living on memories of their stage life.

Saturday, 11 Jan. Washington; cloudy, dark, and cold. Did not see a soul at the office. Everyone sitting behind closed doors. Revised speech for the livestock meeting. Read the District of Columbia traffic regulations. Luncheon ^d~~pp~~ at the Cosmos Club and saw no one I knew. Returned to the house and spent the afternoon on the line-a-day book. Had fried oysters for supper, something that one can get in ^{but} ~~a~~ few countries outside the United States. A nice dressed chicken was received from Winworth. Some good music

and entered the civil service through a competitive examination and for more than a third of a century recognition and advancement had come to me solely as the result of hard work and efficient service, automatically as it were, and with never a hint of political or other outside influence of any kind. I felt that this was as it should be, and I was proud of my government that such things could be. No, it is after the long record of successful achievement I had established recognition could not come as a matter of course, then to help with the system that had grown up during my absence, the department, I was through, and that was all there was to it.

I returned to my little office and revised manuscript for the livestock meeting. Dr. Gelpi came in and talked about sources of information on sociology in South America, Africa, and Australia. Had lunch on the Avenue. Had a short interview with Mr. Calhoun, who was always kind and friendly but negative and very self-sufficient. He again referred to the improvements in the crop reporting service. I said I was gratified to see how well he was carrying out the program I had outlined in great detail in 1917. At the house worked on line-a-day book. In the evening the Johnsons, spent two or three hours with me, entertaining but living on meager of their stage life.

Returned, 11 Jan. Washington; cloudy, dark, and cold. Did not see a soul at the office. Everyone sitting behind closed doors. Revised speech for the livestock meeting. Read the Blue Book on the line-a-day book. Had lunch at the Cosmos Club and saw no one I knew. Returned to the house and spent the afternoon on the line-a-day book. Had lunch outside the United States. A nice breakfast eaten and received from Washington. One word more

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4052

over the radio.

~~(Sister, 11 Jan. Washington, salon folder)~~

Sunday, 12 Jan., Washington; fair and warmer. After reading the papers spent the day writing up the line-a-day book. Late in the afternoon took a long walk up Connecticut Avenue for exercise. Heard some music over the radio, but later one of the tubes gave out and I could get nothing. Wife prepared an excellent chicken dinner, and Thelma and her husband, and Miss Jenkins, participated. In the evening I read a volume of "Wise Cracks," some of which were amusing.

Monday, 13 Jan., Washington; foggy and dark. Otis was up early to answer an advertisement of a garage for a boy. He returned disappointed because the garage wanted a boy to drive a commercial machine and as he was not yet eighteen he was not eligible. At the office I spent the forenoon trying to memorise the livestock address. At noon I was picked up by Mr. Loomis who took me in his car as far as the Cosmos Club. He said that Mr. Gilbert of my bureau was in a precarious condition as a result of an automobile accident; that the Livestock Cooperative Association at St. Paul was one of the largest in the country; and that the Studebaker car he was driving had proved very satisfactory. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Dr. Newberry. Saw Mr. Oakley and other friends from the Bureau of Plant Industry. In the afternoon I dictated a letter regarding the Canadian census. Reading the 1926 Yearbook. Evening working on line-a-day book and reading "Wise Cracks."

~~(Press release, World Agricultural Census, brown folder)~~ omit

(1920, Jan. Washington)

E--4053

Tuesday, 14 Jan., Washington; fog and showers following rain last night. At the office writing letters and reading 1926 Yearbook. Attended Farm Hands Club luncheon with about thirty-five members present. Saw Messrs. Woodberry, Haskell, Gage, Carleton R. Ball, Loomis, Reynolds, and others. At the house Mrs. Gilbert called up by telephone and asked if I would look up the law and see if Mr. Gilbert's disability was incurred in line of duty. She said, as I had already been told, ^{that} he was in Chicago on official business and after office hours had attempted to cross a street, passing behind a truck that was towing another, tripped over the cable that connected them, fell and struck his head on the pavement. He either crawled away or was dragged out of the way before the second truck could run over him. He was dazed but retained consciousness and was able to return to his hotel. Fortunately he had a companion at the hotel from the department in Washington and they returned to Washington together the next day. The companion noticed that Mr. Gilbert acted strangely at times when he seemed to have lapses of memory, difficulty in comprehending questions, and spoke unintelligibly, while at other times he seemed quite normal. On arrival at the station in Washington and Mr. Gilbert took a taxi to his home. Thereafter he acted more and more strangely and his wife had him taken to a hospital for observation. The situation of the family was distressing, not only because of the mental condition of the husband but because hospital treatment involved unforeseen expenses when they were economizing to keep up the payments on their house.

Wednesday, 15 Jan., Washington; fog, showers, and rain. Intended to be driven down to the office, but found the battery of the car exhausted and one tire flat. Reading department yearbooks.

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4054

P While lunching at the Cosmos Club a blond^e man came to my table, ~~greeted~~ greeted me by name, took a seat opposite and began to ask questions about Argentina. I was sure I had seen him before but could not recall his name. Incidentally he mentioned that he was connected with the Federal Farm Board. Gradually it dawned upon me that he ~~was~~ ^{must be} Mr. Reid, economist of the Food Research Foundation at the University of California, recently attached to the Farm Board. Like all economists he was egotistical and selfcomplacent and had assumed that I must remember him, although I had seen him only once and that was ~~ma~~ many years before. Frankly I resented his calm assumption that I would recognize him instantly and without any hint as to his name or connections, and his proceeding to pump me regarding the situation in foreign countries. For this reason I fear I treated him rather ~~very~~ coldly.

On returning to the office I had a telephone call from Mr. McClosky asking if I could give a radio talk on February 15. I excused myself on the ground that I was to give an address at St. Paul on February 13 and might not be able to reach Washington by the 15th. I learned from one of the lady secretaries that Mr. Olsen was expected ~~back~~ back on Jan. 17 and that he was exceedingly nervous. She also said that he tried to do everything himself and had not yet learned to apportion work among others. From remarks of various employees I gathered that at times he was very trying to his office force.

On reaching the house I found Charles Worthy, Eunice's husband. He had come down from Martinsburg, W. Va., where he had been employed in a motion picture theater, to seek employment in Washington. He was hopeful of finding employment in the Census Bureau because of previous experience and preference on account of military service.

During the day at the office I asked Mr. Hughes, personnel officer to look up the duty status of Mr. Gilbert.

(1930, Washington, Jan.

E--4055

Thursday, 16 ~~FEB~~ Jan, Washington; clearing following rain and snow during the night. Charles Worthy left on the bus for Frederick to rejoin Eunice. I instructed Otis to take our car to the garage to have the battery recharged and tires repaired. I rode on the street car to 7th Street and the Avenue and walked to one of the old temporary buildings to see Mr. Oakley. He looked much older. He said that he had had tuberculosis ^{for} ~~for~~ many years but it was not correctly diagnosed until 1926. He planned to leave Washington in February and go to California in hopes that a change in climate would benefit him. I regretted to hear this because I had always liked and admired him ~~because of~~ ^{for} his sanity and his clarity of vision and because of his wonderful courage and endurance while suffering great pain, his unfailing good humor, and his gracious manners, a sweet soul undaunted and triumphant over years of cruel pain. Few men in the department were more loved and respected than was Mr. Oakley. He was an inspiration to all who knew him. He expressed great incredulity when I told him that I was practically without status in the department.

At the Cosmos Club luncheon Mr. Montgomery came over to ^a ~~smoke~~ a cigar at my table. Saw Mr. Hughes who said he was waiting for the return to the bureau of the employe who was with Mr. Gilbert in Chicago before taking up the question of incurrence of disability in line of duty.

In the afternoon reading department yearbooks that had been issued during my absence abroad. Again I was struck by the repetition of certain benefits and improvements in agriculture for which the Department took credit. Year after year these same benefits or achievements were set forth in the yearbooks with estimates of their monetary value as an offset to the cost of the department through all the years since its foundation. No men-

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4056

tion was made in these yearbooks of the initiative and enterprise of private individuals and agencies in promoting agriculture during that long period. However, I could not blame the administrative officials for these annual repetitions of achievements and credits because I knew most of them were overworked and pressed for time and each year they had to supply material both for the year book and to Congress in support of their budgets.

Friday, 17 Jan., Washington; clear^a and cold. Mr. Olsen was at the office for the first time in more than six weeks. I saw him only long enough to exchange greetings. Received letters from Rome, including one from the President of the International Institute of Agriculture notifying me officially of my appointment as "Chef du service honoraire."

Spent the afternoon reading yearbooks. After reaching the house I took wife up to the Buick salesrooms to look at both the new and the used cars. But she was tired and not pleased. Received notice that the balance with the American Express in Rome had been placed to my credit in the Washington bank.

Saturday, omitted.

Sunday, 19 Jan., Washington; clear and cold. Water and eggs froze in the house. Had gas man up to blow out the pipes. Finished bringing line-a-day book up to date. Did some reading. In the evening wife and I called at the apartment of Mrs. Smith, formerly Miss Leonard, secretary of the chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. There we met her husband and Miss Ellerbrock, and a Miss Lane. We had a very enjoyable evening, although wife was troubled with indigestion.

✓
(Mother, 19 Jan., Washington, salmon folder)

(1920, Jan. Washington)

E--4057

Monday, 20 Jan. Washington; fair and very cold. Water pipes in the house all frozen and by afternoon the gas ceased to flow. At the office had my first interview with Mr. Olsen. He said he had been unable to give much thought to the question of my future ~~duties~~ status in the bureau, that all positions were occupied, and that he could think of nothing for me. He seemed offended when I said I felt that I knew more about foreign agriculture than any other man in the Department of Agriculture, or out of it, that I was surprised for that reason that I had not been consulted about the proposed expansion of the foreign division of the bureau, an expansion that I had advocated ten years previously; nor could I understand why Mr. Hobson, who knew so little of world agriculture outside of a few small countries in Europe and who had made a mess of his mission as permanent delegate at the International Institute of Agriculture, should have been selected to head up the foreign work. He challenged my statement that Mr. Hobson "had made a mess of his mission as permanent delegate," and I replied that it was not a matter of opinion but a matter of record that the United States had withdrawn both financial support and cooperation from the Institute for which the only reason was the biased reports and statements submitted by Mr. Hobson which were colored by his animosity toward the president and other officials of the Institute. But, Mr. Olsen, said, the action of the United States was based upon the official records. Exactly, I replied, those records were prepared by Mr. Hobson and sent by him to the State Department and the Department of Agriculture and the strong arm methods advocated by Mr. Hobson on the ~~me~~ basis of reports he himself had prepared and submitted were wholly unnecessary and the action of the United States based on those biased records was a blunder resulting in loss of both money and prestige and in lowered efficiency of the Institute. "The matter is closed

and it is not necessary to discuss it," said Mr. Olsen rather peremptorily. "Certainly, for the time being," I replied; "an egregious blunder is never closed, and sooner or later the recommendation in the memorandum I have submitted will be adopted, namely, that an unbiased representative of the government be sent to Rome ~~to~~ to check up on the status and efficiency of the Institute, and I am confident that the report of that representative will confirm the general accuracy of the statements I have made, and the government will then reverse its present mistaken policy.

Switching to another point, Mr. Olsen asked if I did not think it was possible for the United States to establish a foreign service that would supply it with all the data regarding agricultural production, consumption and distribution that it needed. I assured him it was quite practicable within certain limitations; that it would cost more than it would to strengthen and utilize the International Institute of Agriculture; that the Institute was already well organized with nearly eighty adhering government members under formal treaty obligations to supply information at practically no expense to the Institute; whereas if the United States attempted to collect the same information it would have to maintain representatives in most of those countries at considerable expense who would have to contend against the prejudice that existed in most countries against the United States and its citizens, due not only to differences of race, manners, and customs, but to the widely advertised wealth and ^P~~p~~rosperity of this country and its ruthless, strong arm, and undiplomatic methods of its foreign representatives, and the ostentatious and offensive behavior of so large a proportion of ^r~~t~~raveling Americans. "Within the limits of the ~~funds~~~~the~~ additional funds placed at your disposal through

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4059

the influence of Mr. Hobson with the Federal Farm Board you can duplicate much of the work of the International Institute of Agriculture so far as American representatives in foreign countries can succeed in overcoming prejudice in competition with the prestige of the Institute and the treaty obligations of those countries to the Institute."

Mr. Olsen had listened rather impatiently to what I had said and it was evident that he did not like it. Seeing this I said I would not take up more of his time, thanked him for listening to what I had said, and withdrew.

There was an "outlook" conference of bureau and division chiefs in the afternoon, but I was not ~~invited~~ notified or invited to sit in. Clearly there was no place for me in the bureau, mainly because of divergence of point of view, indifference, and now probable antagonism of the chief of bureau. And yet this was the man whom I was instrumental some years previously in dislodging from an inconspicuous pigeon hole and giving him an opportunity in connection with seed grain loans in the North West to distinguish himself which laid the foundation for his future success in the department.

Tuesday, 21 Jan., Washington; cloudy and foggy. Again the gas in the house was frozen so that we had little heat or light.

There was absolutely nothing for me to do at the office except occupy my time reading back numbers of the Yearbooks. At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Mr. Marquis, who had just returned

from a tour of the Northwest, reported that farmers were divided in opinion with respect to the Farm Board. Mr. Montgomery talked for a few minutes on overproduction, saying that all industries, including agriculture, were in precisely the same situation and that the only solution was to reduce production so as to eliminate the inefficient. Mr. Loomis asked a few Grange members privately

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4060

and when we did so a committee was appointed to purchase a present for the outgoing Master of our local Grange, Mr. Marquis, who also was the organizer and chairman in perpetuity of our Farm Hands Club.

Just before closing time at the office Mr. Reid, who was formerly with Dr. C. O. Townsend, sugar beet specialist, called. I did not recognize him at first because more than twenty years had elapsed since we had met and he had changed greatly in personal appearance. He ^{ai}~~sd~~ that for several yers he had been employed by a company operating in the Northwest in a valley and one of their problems was the effect of sulphuric acid on vegetation. The largest smelter in the United States was situated in the same valley ~~that~~ that threw out something like 12,000 tons of sulphuric acid daily and that the fumes spread out over the valley for a distance of thirty miles, killing much of the vegetation. He was in Washington to lobby for an appropriation from Congress to investigate and perhaps regulate those fumes.

At the house a gas man had tinkered with the ~~pipe~~ pipes and the meter during the day, but the supply of gas was still inadequate.

Wednesday, 22 Jan., Washington; cloudy, cold, a little snow, and pavements slippery with ice. At the office I dictated some letters. Just at noon Mr. Olsen sent for me. This time he was quite friendly and we discussed the bureau and my connection with it. However, he was opposed to my suggestions, (1) that I resume my former position of associate chief of bureau, because there was no real need for one; (2) that I be appointed assistant chief with supervision over the statistical and foreign work of the bureau, because those functions were exercised by Mr. Tolley; and (3) that I be appointed as a consulting expert in statistical and foreign

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4061

matters, because he thought it would mean interference and be resented by division chiefs. I suggested a special study of the various attempts that had been made in different countries and organizations to stabilize prices of agricultural products, such as the Brazilian coffee valorization scheme, the fixing of prices of export beef and livestock by the Argentine government, the Australian scheme for maintaining the price of dairy products, the attempt to regulate rubber production and prices in the Malay States, the growing and handling of tobacco by government monopoly in many countries, and many other schemes, one or more of which would probably be proposed in this country as measures of farm relief and the bureau should have some one specialize on the subject, as well as the whole subject of overproduction and underconsumption. Mr. Olsen replied that the Department of Commerce claimed exclusive jurisdiction over all these subjects and that if I undertook such a study it would have to be as an assistant in one of the divisions, probably the Division of Land Utilization under Dr. Gray in the same way that Dr. Spillman was. I said that it would be entirely agreeable to me to occupy a position analagous to that of Prof. Spillman. We separated without reaching any conclusion. He was animated, quick in thinking, and this time was not so harsh and dictatorial as at our former interview. I got the impression that he was somewhat embarrassed by my presence in the bureau. As we separated he said that he would continue to think matters over. I assured him that I did not wish to embarrass the bureau, but that I had grown up in the department, had helped found the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, had sacrificed five years of my life and many opportunities at the earnest solicitation of the former chief of bureau and his principal assistants to promote a particular project of the bureau and had done so with conspicuous success,

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4062

and that in recognition of that special service I felt that the Bureau was under obligation to either provide me with a permanent assignment or a temporary one that would enable me to look about and arrange to relieve the bureau of its evident embarrassment.

In the evening wife and I attended a meeting of the Grange. Several hours were taken up with the ~~installation of the~~ ~~initiation of new members~~ ~~xxxxxxMasterxx~~ initiation of new members and to me the meeting was extremely dull and tiresome. It seemed to me that all the mummary and flummery of the ritual might well be dispensed with. The sheer waste of time involved in these ceremonies might be justified in relieving the awkwardness and lack of program in remote country districts in former times when farmers were isolated and without opportunities for social intercourse and communication, but in these days of telephones, rural free delivery of daily newspapers, automobiles, good roads, and universal education, there is no longer any need for it, and I suspect the ritual keeps away more people than it attracts.

(Longobardi, 22 Jan., Washington, brown folder)

Extract from letter of January 22, 1930, at Washington, D.C.,
to Mr. Longobardi, International Institute of Agriculture,
Rome:

x x x
"I hope you will get a good response to the circular letters asking for ~~a~~ report of census progress in the various countries. However, in view of past experience, you need not be disappointed if the response is not fully up to your expectations. But even if a country does not reply, the circular letter will at least serve the purpose of reminding it that the Institute expects it to make a report and submit copies of its forms, and this will stimulate it to action. I strongly suspect that many countries do not readily answer inquiries from the Institute because of the language difficulty. As you know, many educated officials can read French and understand it when they hear it spoken, and even speak it imperfectly when they feel that it is necessary, but cannot or will not even try to write it because they do not wish to make a permanent record of their imperfect knowledge of French by writing a letter or report. I believe that the Institute would get much better results if it added a note to its correspondence about as follows: 'Reply in your own language.' It is much easier for the Institute to have translations made in Rome than it is for people in other countries to write in a language which they rarely have occasion to use.

x x x x

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4063

Thursday, 23 Jan., Washington; clear, flying snow, very cold. After breakfast I called on Dr. Durand at the Department of Commerce. He said there was no apparent hope of my appointment as Assistant Director of the Census because Mr. Steuart objected to the appointment of any one except one of his assistants upon whose habitual complaisance he could depend. Dr. Durand expressed regret at this opposition because he was apprehensive of trouble later. He asked if I would be interested in a position at \$5,600 to assist in summarizing the results of the census. I said I would be interested if nothing better was available in the meantime.

At the office I dictated a reply to the customs officer at Demarara regarding employment for his son. Saw no one I knew at the Cosmos Club luncheon. At the office I amused myself by sketching various plans in the event I should have to resign, as seemed highly probable. Most of these pointed to the advisability of selling my Washington residence and disposing of my stock of peonies at Sunny Hill.

~~At the house I found that wife was giving a tea to some of the neighbors. In the evening I tried to talk to her about our situation and plans for the future, but ~~he~~ she refused to listen to me, saying that she knew that "unseen forces" were working for me, and with a grim look on her face and a disdainful toss of her head she abruptly turned her back upon me and walked away.~~

(Sister, 23 Jan., Washington, salmon folder)

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4064

Friday, 24 Jan., Washington; clear and cold. All pipes in the house frozen. Preparing a letter to Prof. Bolley of the North Dakota Experiment Station, who wanted information about South America which he expected to visit. Spent the afternoon reading economic geography. Left early and inspected paintings in the National Gallery of Art. Walked up to F Street and rode home in a street car. It was badly crowded, two-thirds of the passengers being women, and I noted there was not a single attractive one in the lot. My ~~th~~^e thought was that nowhere in the world could one see such a large percentage of homely women and such a small percentage of attractive ones as in Washington, D.C., and my explanation was that for many years the government departments had been recruiting women employees through the Civil Service from forty-eight States and that most of the attractive women of those States were married or about to be married and did not compete in the Civil Service examinations; also that the unattractive ones, realizing their situation, were abnormally studious in preparing for the examinations and abnormally assiduous in the performance of their duties after appointment. Being resigned to a state of single blessedness and without families, they could dress well, live in stylish apartments, take lecture courses, and have a pretty good time for a period of years, employment to keep them occupied, a sufficient salary to enable them to save something for old age, attend theaters and other entertainments, take vacations to seaside and mountain resorts, and feel independent; but in time it becomes a lonely life and in old age a pathetic one.

At the house wife had prepared a good supper. Read the Scientific Monthly awhile in my den. But all the time I was reading I was half conscious that in the background of my mind were stirring ~~about~~ thoughts of the unexpected outcome of my successful census mission, ^{the} indifference, coldness, and exclusion in my own bureau and depart-

(1920, Jan. Washington)

E--4065

ment, the prospect of retirement to private life at Sunny Hill free from public duties and responsibilities and petty rivalries. My greatest regret and trouble was the fact that my wife closed her mind completely and had a semidefiant attitude toward me and my situation, refusing either to listen or discuss the matter with me. I was at a loss to understand this attitude on her part unless it was the effect of her infection with sentimental Christian science and theosophic theory that all disagreeable things in life could be made nonexistent by refusing to think of them or admit their existence and that any one could have or do anything he or she wished by simply wishing or concentrating the mind on it.

Saturday, 25 Jan. Washington; clear and cold. Forenoon reading Economic Geography. Afternoon visited the Division of Crop Estimates and met many of my old friends. At my office had a visit from Dr. Haskell with a Dr. Gates of Johns Hopkins, an archeologist who had specialized for many years on ancient Mayan civilization of Central America and had accumulated a large collection of material. Both were interested in the coming Inter American Conference the following September and Dr. Gates wished to take an active part in the conference in the interest of archeological work. He had conceived the idea of sending Mr. Haskell to Central and South American countries to stir up interest in the conference. The Doctor said ten thousand dollars would be needed to finance Mr. Haskell and that he had personally subscribed \$2,500 and proposed to visit New York to try to induce transportation companies and other agencies to contribute the remainder. They came to me because of my familiarity with the countries it was proposed to visit.

Sunday, 26 Jan., Washington; fair and cold. After reading the morning papers I jotted down some notes for this biographical sketch for which I noted as a tentative title "The Story of an American."

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4066

In the afternoon I visited the Corcoran Art Gallery. After returning I resumed my writing and was interrupted by the arrival of Thelma and her husband. Curiously enough I happened to mention the mysterious disappearance of a pipe and Thelma glanced over to a ~~couch~~ couch and pointed to the pipe. It had slipped out of my pocket. I had failed to see it because it was exactly the same color as the cover of the couch. After supper I popped some corn. After retiring I began to read "Men, Cities, and Things" by Murray Hill, a sort of personal record along the lines I had thought of writing my own memoirs.

Monday, 27 Jan., Washington; snowing, dark, and warmer. George, the handy man, had shown signs of drinking the day before and had announced that he was not coming any more--which was good news to me. For a wonder my wife had told him he could go and stay away and never come ~~back~~ back--this only because of her fanatical condemnation of alcohol. However, he was back in the morning, obviously drunk. I closed the front door on him but forgot that the basement door was not locked. After breakfast I went down to my basement den and found George asleep in my swivel chair with his feet on the desk. He was very grumpy and indignant when I shook him awake and hustled him through the door and told him not to show himself until he was fully sober.

Spent the day at the office revising my St. Paul address. On the way home stopped at a real estate office about the sale of my town house and was told that all real estate values were down far below their ^{ass}essed valuation for taxes and that absolutely no sales were being made. In the evening took Otis with me to an automobile show and we saw some fine cars.

Tuesday, 28 Jan., Washington; variable and warmer. After breakfast George telephoned and later came to the door, but I refused

(1920, Jan. Washington)

E--4067

to admit him because he was still drunk and offensive. I did some writing while waiting for a real estate man to inspect the house. He was an hour late in keeping his appointment. He also said that houses in the District of Columbia would not sell for their tax assessed valuation, and there were no sales. He said that some exchanges of houses were being made. I said I would consider exchanging for a smaller house on a fair valuation. Then he began to expatiate on the merits and advantages of an apartment house which did not appeal to me because it would have meant carrying a heavy debt.

I attended the luncheon of the Farm Hands Club at the Harrington Hotel at which there was a good attendance and interesting discussions. They covered road design, precipitation, fertilizers, soils, curtailing crop production, efforts of fruit and vegetable preserving associations to arrive at a set of satisfactory definitions, explanation of Mr. Brown of how Admiral Bird was to be rescued from the antartic ice, a statement by Mr. Loomis regarding the tariff discussion on fats and oils, and Mr. Pike Johnson's statement regarding prospective sales of automobiles. He said the manufacturers intended to reduce output and raise prices.

I walked to the office with Dr. Carleton R. Ball who said the the Prof. Bolley who had written me for information regarding South America was a voluminous writer and one of the first to suggest that cereal diseases were due to soil organisms. I inquired if soil organisms were present in the semiarid and desert regions and he said that some of the most destructive of soil organisms were found in the dry land regions. From him I learned that Dr. John Lee Coulter, with whom I had been associated on the committee of reorganization of the old Bureau of Statistics, was

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4068

then chief economist of the Federal Trade Commission.

During the afternoon Mr. Olsen sent for me and said that he had been unable to think of any opening for me in the bureau but that Dr. Woods had suggested that I might become secretary to the Inter American Conference on Agriculture to be held the following September. I at once telephoned to Dr. Woods' office and was told that he was in conference and I would be notified as soon as he was free. I remained at my desk until 5 p.m. without a call and then left.

On the way home I became so absorbed in thinking of the ^{differences} between instinct, intuition, ~~and~~ telepathy, and spirit phenomena, that I became utterly oblivious to sights and sounds until I awoke with a start in front of my house. To do this I must have crossed many streets full of long lines of automobiles, but from the time I left the office until I reached my house my mind was a complete blank except for the consideration of these interesting topics. I took it for a sign of age because such abstraction would have been impossible when I was younger.

Miss Jenkins went with my wife to a picture show in the afternoon and took supper with us afterward. In the evening my thought was that I was quite reconciled to separation from the bureau, now that I understood the attitude of the administrative officials, all of which was quite natural and logical from their point of view; and I was consoled with the thought that after it was all over I would be free to dispose of my property and shape my future as I pleased. Unfortunately, or fortunately, I did not foresee any more than other people what was in store for the United States and what an inopportune time it was for any one to retire from the government service.

Wednesday, 29, Jan., Washington; fair and cold. Had the gas

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4069

pipes blown out and a liberal dose of alcohol put in the meter.

Had an interview with Dr. Woods at 11 a.m. He explained that the last Pan American Scientific Congress had agreed to hold a special agricultural conference in Washington; that the Pan American Union took charge of promoting it; that Dr. Orton of the Tropical Research Foundation was engaged to supervise the organization of the scientific work but had since died; that he, Dr. Woods, the Assistant Director of the Pan American Union, Dr. Gil Borges, and a member of the National Research Council, Dr. Jones, had been appointed a committee to look after the matter; that the conference was regarded of sufficient international importance to justify the State Department to take over the project and have the President issue the invitations to the Pan American governments; that now the committee realized the need of a competent secretary to look after the preliminary organization work, the details of securing attendance, the submission of papers and their translation into Spanish and Portuguese; that it was highly desirable that a man visit the Central and South American countries to arouse interest and pass upon the qualifications of delegates, and he had proposed me for that mission, but no money was available for expenses; that Mr. Olsen had informed him that I was out of the service and there was no opening for me in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, but that for the Pan American conference his bureau could contribute one thousand dollars (the amount it had contributed to my salary as director of the world agricultural census project.)

I interrupted Dr. Woods to explain that Mr. Olsen's statement that I was out of the service was not correct because I had entered the service of the Department many years ago on a competitive civil service examination and had never left it; my service had been continuous and I still drew a salary from the Bureau of Agricultural

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4070

Economics, the bureau I had helped to establish; that I had made a considerable financial and personal sacrifice to serve the bureau on a foreign mission and that upon the successful completion of that mission I had naturally expected to be retained in service, but that upon my return I found myself completely isolated, insulated, and ignored, without a word of explanation; that for nearly two months I had been kept waiting for some word of explanation or some decision as to my future assignment, and none had come until a day or two before when Mr. Olsen had said there was no place for me in the bureau. I had sensed this, of course, but to me it had been incredible and I had waited for a definite statement from Mr. Olsen, and now I had it. But I wanted it distinctly understood that when Mr. Olsen or anybody else said I was out of the service he was mistaken, and there was no excuse for Mr. Olsen or any administrative official in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to be mistaken on that point. I had sensed also that my presence in the bureau was embarrassing to the administrative officials, and if necessary I could give their names, but what irked me most was that not one of them had the courage to be frank and friendly with me. Furthermore, now that I understood the situation, I was quite reconciled to retirement, but because of the embarrassment of the administrative officials of the bureau, my old associates, and the statement of Mr. Olsen that I was no longer connected with the service I felt strongly inclined to sit tight and get some amusement out of watching their maneuvers to separate me from the service. I was in the service and a member of the bureau quite as much as Mr. Olsen, Mr. Kitchen, or Mr. Callendar; my service had been both highly successful and efficient, conspicuously so in fact, and I wondered just what they could or would do in the circumstances. At the same time, I said, this was so contrary to my disposition

(1930, Jan, Washington)

E--4071

and lifelong habit of cooperation and service that I would ~~be~~ probably decide to forego the fun I could get out of it and relieve the situation by voluntarily resigning.

Mr. Woods smiled sympathetically, said he was much surprised at the situation I had disclosed, and reaching for the telephone he called up the office of the Secretary and the office of the Personnel Director and was informed that both the Secretary and the Personnel Director were out. He said he would follow up the matter and send for me.

At the Cosmos Club I saw ^{Ex-} Secretary of Agriculture Jardine and Dr. Coville. Also Mr. Littlehales, chief of the Hydrographic Office whom I had known back in 1894. He had changed very little in appearance during all those intervening years.

I spent the afternoon writing. The walk home was a cold one, and the house was cold. The gas was frozen and the new Aladin lamp failed to function, so we were without sufficient light for reading. And this was what I came back to after complaining about the lack of heat and modern conveniences in foreign countries. Well, I vowed, if we ever get through this winter and all its discomforts this old house is going to be remodeled so that it will never happen again.

Thursday, 30 Jan., Washington; snowing. Did some writing at the house and then went to the Cosmos Club for luncheon. From my seat at a window overlooking Lafayette Square I saw a beautiful snow scene; ground and trees covered with a mantle^{le} of snow and a fairly heavy fall of snowflakes dropping out of the sky. It was one of the most beautiful scenes I had seen in Washington for many years. In the reception lounge I met Dr. Nelson, chief of the Biological Survey, and he expressed the opinion that the animal seen in the eastern suburbs at night was a dog that may have gone wild. For more than a week the local papers were full of accounts of an animal various-

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4072

ly described as a big cat, a bobcat, a panther, a mountain lion, a wolf, a bear, and what not. Men laid in wait for it with dogs ~~and~~ and guns, and set traps for it, but so far without success, and there was much speculation about it.

At the office I called up Dr. Woods who said that the Secretary had authorized him to go ahead and have me appointed to his office at a salary of five hundred dollars a month for a period of eleven months and that the Personnel Officer had been asked to look into my Civil Service status. As soon as this was determined the appointment would be made. Later ~~I later~~ I learned that the salary was to be charged to the various bureaus^u in succession, the Secretary's office having no funds from which it could be paid. I felt much relieved to hear this because it ended my uncertainty and would give me nearly a year in which to prepare for the future.

Friday, 31 Jan., Washington; clear and very cold, with heavy snow on the ground. Gas and water pipes frozen, so there there was no~~x~~ heat or light in the house. Had breakfast downtown.

At the office had the Library send me a copy of the report of the last Pan American Congress which had proposed the Inter American Conference on Agriculture, which I understood would be my job during the coming months to assist Dr. Woods in organizing.

In the evening wife and I called on Dr. S. A. Jones and family who lived well out on Wisconsin Avenue. Dr. Jones, with whom I was associated so long in the Bureau of Crop Estimates, looked much older and his hair had become almost white. Mrs. Jones and wife talked so steadily that Dr. Jones and I had little opportunity to say anything. His family was always rather unconventional. Two young daughters were preparing to go out with a sled and were dressed in their father's old knickerbockers and golf stockings. They were in and out of the room where we were talking, fidgeted a good deal,

(1930, Jan. Washington)

E--4073

and finally one of them, a girl of about fifteen or sixteen, stood ^{that} on her head for my especial benefit. Dr. Jones repeated the story of one of our field agents told him, when we had reached the stage of discussing the occult powers of man. It was to the effect that he had talked with a man in California who had the power to imitate the sound of the voice of any bird and at a distance, by some means that no one understood, he could put out flames and break electric light bulbs at will, and do other strange things with his voice the same as over a radio. The same man told him also of seeing some members of a native tribe in Hawaia walk barefooted over a superheated pit of a bed of lava and glowing coals without injury. Of course, Dr. Jones did not vouch for the correctness of these accounts, and to me they seemed like fairy tales for the credulous.

~~(Memo. for Dr. Woods regarding my employment, brown folder)~~ *omit*

and finally one of them, a girl of about fifteen or sixteen, stood
on her head for my special benefit. Dr. Jones repeated the story of
one of our field agents told him, when he had reached the state of
dismissing the occult powers of man. It was to the effect that he
had talked with a man in California who had the power to induce
the sound of the voice of any bird and at a distance, by some means
that no one understood, he could put out flames and break electric
light bulbs at will, and he other strange things with his voice
the same as over a radio. The same man told him also of seeing
some members of a native tribe in Hawaii with barbed wire over a
superheated pit of a bed of lava and glowing coals without injury.
Of course, Dr. Jones did not vouch for the correctness of these ac-
counts, and to me they seemed like fairy tales for the credulous.

~~(Note: For Dr. Jones' report on this subject, see page 1073)~~

(1930, Feb. Washington.)

E--4074

Saturday, 1 Feb., Washington; cloudy and warmer. Spent the day at the office abstracting report of the last Pan American Congress.

Wife and I spent the evening with Mr. and Mrs. Loomis near Takoma Park. We had a nice supper and a pleasant evening, although I was deprived of the opportunity to smoke. Mr. Loomis brought us back in his car as far as the bus line at the end of 16th Street. It was extremely cold and we had a long wait. We had a similar experience the evening before at Wisconsin Avenue. In view of these disagreeable experiences I asked my wife to decline all invitations until I got a new car that I could drive so that we would have our own transportation. Since childhood I had disliked waiting, and waiting in severe cold and discomfort was especially disagreeable.

Sunday, 2 Feb., Washington; clear and warmer. Reading the papers, writing checks for the monthly bills, and making up income tax return. Reading Joseph Collins's "The Doctor Looks at Love and Life."

(Mother, 2 Feb., Washington, brown folder)

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4075

~~Sunday, xx2x~~ Monday, 3

~~Monday, 1/3~~ Feb., Washington; clear and warmer. At the department I obtained Dr. Woods' file of correspondence and papers connected with the Inter American conference and began to read and make abstracts of them for future reference. I called ~~at~~ at the office of the Tropical Research Foundation of which Dr. Orton was Director at the time of his death. He also was cooperating with the Pan American Union and with Dr. Woods in promoting the conference. In fact, he was largely responsible for the action of the last Pan American Congress in recommending that such a conference be held. I talked with his secretary, Mrs. Abbie Owen, who explained a number of things to me and assured me that I was welcome to go through Dr. Orton's files whenever I felt so disposed.

After supper I began reading "Cities and Men" by Ludwig Lewisohn, which is a series of essays. The one on William Hazlett is especially good.

Tuesday, 4 Feb., Washington; raining and mild. At the office spent the forenoon reading Putnam's "Economic Atlas." At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Mr. Palmer of the Biological Survey, who was stationed some years in Alaska, described the reindeer experiment as highly successful; starting with an initial herd of about 2,000 thirty or more years previously the number had increased over 350,000. He described them as between horses and cattle in intelligence and domesticity, more intelligent than cattle but less so than horses. He also described experiments with mountain sheep and musk oxen. Another speaker described conditions in Montana. Mr. Brown gave an excellent talk on meteorology and made the statement that there had been no real progress in the last thirty years except as to the influence on climate of ocean currents.

In the afternoon reading Yearbooks. As I was leaving the office Mr. Hughes, personnel officer of the bureau, came in to ask when I

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4076

expected to vacate the office room I was occupying. I said that no doubt office space for me would be provided after my appointment. He said he had been informed that the appointment had been issued and had supposed I knew it.

Wednesday, 5 Feb., Washington; clear and colder. I saw Dr. Woods in the morning regarding office space. He suggested that I retain the office I was then occupying in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics; also arrange for space in the Pan American Bureau and in the Tropical Research Foundation. He answered a number of questions I had noted after running through the correspondence relating to the coming conference. He said that I would be appointed as his assistant and he would probably need my help on matters not connected directly with the conference, as he wished to promote better cooperative relations between the Department of Agriculture, the Department of State, and the Pan American Union, as well as with Johns Hopkins University. *P* I called on Dr. W.A. Taylor who readily agreed to ask members of his staff in the Bureau of Plant Industry to prepare suitable papers on their specialties for the conference. Also he explained briefly and interestingly the changes that had been made in the Federal Horticultural Board and in the Bureau of Entomology upon the retirement of Dr. Howard. This discussion grew out of the fact that the whole question of quarantines, plant and animal, would probably be a controversial subject at the conference because many of the Latin American republics were protesting against the quarantine measures of the United States government which excluded

(p. 4078 next)

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4078

their products from our markets. Regarding the Reclamation Service Dr. Taylor suggested that this be left out of our program because its value was being seriously questioned. At the office I found some correspondence sent over by Dr. Woods for my attention. *H* Mr. Haskell and Dr. Gates called and reported that their visit to New York to solicit funds to finance Mr. Haskell's proposed trip to South America had resulted in failure. Mr. Haskell had brought with him a copy of the House bill appropriating \$25,000 for the expenses of the conference. This had passed the House but not the Senate. *H* I called at the Tropical Research Foundation to look up some letters referred to the correspondence sent over by Dr. Woods. Mr. Vinall came in to consult me about his coming trip to Santo Domingo, Porto Rico, and Panama, in connection with forage crops. This was my first real business ^a ~~day~~ since my return more than two months previously and I was happy to be again pressed with work, something definite to do.

Thursday, 6 Feb., Washington; cloudy and cold. The day was taken up with interviews regarding the conference project and consultations about the preparation of technical papers in different bureaus. Also had an interview with Dr. Gil Borges, Assistant Director of the Pan American Union, who assured me that space ~~wa~~ would be provided in his building.

~~At the house I learned that Thelma had gone to Columbia Hospital to have her baby. Otis much excited about it. Just as wife and I were sitting down to supper he passed the dining room door without looking in or speaking on his way out. Later he came in and asked for something to eat. He was very taciturn. I asked if he knew where he was going when he left without telling us what, if anything, had happened. He simply grunted.~~

Friday, 7 Feb., Washington; fair and cold. Spent the day

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4079

abstracting correspondence and papers relating to the conference.

Met

Mr. Dr. David Griffiths and Mr. Ashley and other old friends. Mr.

Genung of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics came in and asked a lot of questions about Brazillian coffee, Cuban sugar, Malayan rubber, and the ^{grape} ~~crop~~ situation in Mendoza, the rice & valorization and silk certification in Japan, and on leaving said he wanted to talk to me on these subjects again.

~~In the evening wife and I went to the Columbia Hospital to see Thelma, who was looking quite cheerful after her ordeal. We were permitted to see the baby, which seemed quite normal. In the same room were eighteen new babies, each one in a basket hanging to a hook on the wall, each with a number and a nurse in charge. The babies were brought out eight at a time, wrapped in cloth, and laid in rows on a table with wheels. They were wheeled into a large room and distributed among eight mothers. The single beds^s on which the mothers were lying were separated from each other by low partitions somewhat higher than a person's head. Everything was clean and orderly. We had supper at a restaurant at 21st St. and the Avenue. Otis, who appeared to be sulking about something, did not go with us.~~

Saturday, 8 Feb., Washington; fair and cold. Saw Dr. Woods, Mr. Warburton, and others, and had several interviews. Mr. Haskell brought in and introduced Mr. Allan Payne of the Pan American Magazineⁿ, who expressed a desire for several articles on the coming conference. Mr. Price took supper with us and Otis spent the night with him.

Sunday, 9 Feb., Washington; fair and cold. Read the papers, drafted some correspondence relating to the conference, visited Thelma at the hospital, and reading.

✓
(Mother, 9 Feb., Washington, brown folder)

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E- 4080

Monday, 10 Feb., Washington; clear and cold. Visiting and interviewing officials about the department regarding preparation of technical papers for the conference. Left office middle of the afternoon to ^eg^t to a bank before closing time, and then home to pack up. At 6.20 p.m. ^ah^a Otis drive me to the Union Station to take the train for St. Paul. I disliked leaving home in the winter time when the country was bleak and bare and to interrupt my new work just as I was getting started. However, I enjoyed sitting in the train, the feeling of motion, the rhythmic sound of the wheels on the rails, and the prospect of entering a strange city and appearing before a strange audience, which I thought might be helpful in overcoming my reluctance to speak in public.

Tuesday, 11 Feb., to St. Paul; clear and cold. Woke up in Ohio near Mansfield. Fields covered with a light fall of snow, ponds iced over, and icicles hung from the eaves of houses and barns. The groves of oak, hickory, maple, and elm trees were leafless and the different species could be distinguished by color of bark, outline, and tracery of twigs against the sky. The country houses looked very comfortable. At a railway yard were many locomotives emitting great volumes of pearly white steam. In many of the fields were to be seen droves of half grown pigs. At 11.40 a.m. the train stopped on tracks high above the street in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, a straggling manufacturing town as seen from the train. At 1.15 p.m. we were passing through Gary, Indiana, at the south end of Lake Michigan, a city of great steel plants and factories. Reached Chicago at 2.05 p.m. Checked my baggage and walked across the river and down to the corner of LaSalle and Jackson Streets. There I was whisked in an elevator to the seventh floor of an enormous building to the offices of the Clements Curtiss

(1930, Feb. Was St. Paul)

E--4081

Company and found Mr. Nat C. Murray, former Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Crop Estimates when I was Chief, whom I had notified of my coming. He put aside his work and together we went out to the Field Museum. The Museum is in a large ornamental building on the lake front. The snow banks in front of the building were black with soot and coal dust. After inspecting the exhibits we drove to the railway station and took a suburban train to La Grange some twelve or fourteen miles out, with wide streets and neat wooden houses in large lots. A walk of a few squares brought us to Mr. Murray's residence where I found Mrs. Murray looking well but older, as did Mr. Murray. Donald and Natalie, two of their children, were grown up but had developed physical maladies. I greatly enjoyed my visit with these friends. Mr. Murray returned to the city with me and we sat in the waiting room and talked about old times. On parting he put his arm about my shoulders and said he always remembered the happy days of our association together and that had it continued no offer from an outside firm would have tempted him to leave. He had been sent to Argentina by his firm the previous year and found that the statistical bureau that I had organized was shot to pieces by the new administration, but every one he met praised my service. He would not leave me until my train departed at 9.05 p.m.

Wednesday, 12 Feb., St. Paul, cloudy and dull and ground covered with snow. Reached St. Paul at 8 a.m. and went to the Lowery Hotel. A reservation had been made for me but when I arrived I was told that all rooms were taken and that the hotel had no record of my reservation. When I showed the clerk the letter I had received from the hotel manager saying that a room would be reserved for me he apologized and said they would take care of me during the day, which meant that I had to check my baggage and wait for a room. Had a nice breakfast of buckwheat cakes, maple syrup,

(1930, Feb. St. Paul)

E--4082

sausage, and coffee. The morning papers said the city was full of people to attend a Lincoln celebration. Later I was given a nice room and had barely got settled when Mr. Kirk, our State statistician called to see me. *P* We had a long talk about conditions in the Bureau, which were far from satisfactory. After noon a newspaper man called and I gave him a copy of my proposed address and told him something about the International Institute of Agriculture. Later two other newspaper men with cameras came in for interviews. I took a short walk and looked across the river near the hotel. It seemed very narrow at this point and had a fringe of ice on both sides. About 4.30 p.m. Mr. Kirk came in and we had another long talk. Then the secretary of the Livestock Cooperative Association came up and after talking awhile took us in his car out to Mr. Kirk's residence where we had supper with the family. *P* Mr. Kirk assisted his wife in preparing the supper. She was suffering from the toothache and showed it. She was interested in antiques and showed me pictures taken from old magazines. In the course of conversation we got to talking about prohibition and she expressed the opinion that all the world should sacrifice everything to prevent a single man from losing himself because of liquor, that the taste for liquor is hereditary, and that if men will refrain from drinking or be prevented from drinking for two generations, the taint would be lost and the problem would be completely solved. I had difficulty in getting away, a long wait in the snow for the trolley car, and a long slow ride back to the business section, so that it was after midnight when I retired.

Thursday, ~~Feb~~ 13 Feb., St. Paul; showing and cold. At 10 a.m. I went to the St. Paul Hotel and ~~a~~ saw a large hall filled with plainly dressed men, members of the livestock association. I listened to a number of addresses during the forenoon. Had luncheon at the hotel restaurant. I was soon joined by the president and the secretary of

(1030, St. Paul)

E--4083

the association. I returned to the hall at 2.30 p.m. and was joined by Mr. Kirk, Mr. Peck, formerly with our bureau, and Mr. Holmberg, the State Commissioner of Agriculture. The first speaker was a member of the Farm Board, who ~~gave~~^{gave} a rather technical description of how grain would be handled by the Board. My name was called next. I gave a ~~travel~~^{travel} talk and described the livestock regions of the earth. It was listened to with profound attention and at the conclusion there was great applause and a rising vote of thanks amounting to a ~~real~~^{real} ovation. I returned to my three friends who were enthusiastic over the success of my talk. After the speaking was over I returned to the hotel and checked the baggage.

At 6.15 p.m. I returned to the St. Paul hotel to attend a banquet. On entering the lounge I was immediately surrounded by a group of young men who asked many questions about Argentina and Russia. The secretary found me and took me to a seat at the speaker's table. He was profuse in his thanks for my talk and said he would have it printed for distribution. The speaker of the evening was Senator Hyslop who took for his subject "The High Cost of Low Living," a ~~highly~~^{very} humorous talk in a rich Swedish-American brogue that was hilariously applauded.

I left the banquet hall in time to catch the fast train for Chicago and spent the evening in the lounge coach watching the other passengers and listening to the radio.

(Address, 13 Feb., brown folder) *omit*

(1930, Feb. to Washington)

E--4084

Friday, 14 Feb., to Washington; bright sunshine and ground covered with a heavy fall of snow. Reached Milwaukee at dawn and the trip to Chicago was along the lake shore and through the almost continuous series of suburban towns. Had breakfast on the train and sat smoking in the lounge, listened to the radio, and watched the landscape flit by.

Reached Chicago at 8.35 a.m., transferred to the B. & O. railway station, checked my baggage, and took a walk on the streets. It was bright and very cold. The streets were full of traffic. I could see but little change in the appearance of the business section since I saw it many years before. I walked across to Michigan Avenue and up to the Art Gallery where I spent two hours or more very agreeably. The building is much larger than it looks from the outside. On the lower floor were large collections of rugs, porcelains, glass ware, statuary, and pictures, some of which were very beautiful. Many of the rugs were badly worn and dull in color and unless one knew their age and origin he would not value them highly. Of the paintings some of the landscapes and portraits were pleasing. My classifications of the paintings would be about eighty percent displeasing, fifteen per cent fair, and five per cent true to life and color and pleasing. The paintings of Whistler, Corot, Milet, and Rembrant, were excellent.

The jewelry shops along Michigan Avenue had most attractive displays.

I walked down State Street to the section given over to pawnshops and cheap theaters. I noted a number of employment agencies before which were long lines of men. I went into a movie theater to rest and get warm. It was full of poorly dressed men, including many negroes. I could not help thinking how much more comfortable these people would be in the tropics where at least

(1930, to Washington, Feb.)

E--4085

they could be warm and could always get something to eat. Between acts a barker hawked a cheap pamphlet that told about the wonders of spiritism and fortune telling, hypnotism, card tricks, ~~and~~ dreams, and the like, all for ten cents, with a piece of candy thrown in. I walked back to a cheap restaurant near the railway station. It was full of rough looking young men. In it were three waitresses, two of ^{whom} ~~which~~ were interesting. One was a golden blonde^e with a flushed face. The other was a little beauty with high colored cheeks, brown eyes, a roguish smile, wavy black hair fastened with ~~with~~ a ribbon in it as a frame for her pretty face. These two attractive females accounted for the popularity of the place with the young men.

My train left in the afternoon and I spent the rest of the day in the club coach smoking and reading magazines. Outside it was cloudy and gloomy.

Saturday, 15 Feb., to Washington; cloudy and cold. Woke up in the morning as the train was passing Sugar Loaf Mountain in Maryland and reached Washington at 8.55 a.m.

At the house I found wife ill and in bed and Otis in his room with the radio going.

At the office I found Prof. Knight of Chicago occupying my chair and desk to which he had been assigned, and I would not disturb him. In the Bureau News I noted that Mr. Tolley, ~~had~~ ~~res~~ assistant chief, had resigned to become director of the Gianini Foundation, the post vacated by Mr. Hobson. I called at the Tropical Research Foundation and some letters were turned over to me.

Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club by appointment with Mr. Ryerson, chief of the Office of Foreign Plant Introduction, and learned that he was educated in California, was in France during the war, served two years in Haiti, was appointed to his present

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4086

position, joined a survey party in Palestine, followed by an expedition to the Hudson Bay region. He was exceptionally well informed. His opinion of the Zionist movement ~~movement~~ in Palestine agreed with mine, that agriculturally it could not succeed.

At the house I found wife very ill, although she was desperately trying to iron some of Thelma's things. With difficulty I persuaded her to ⁱlye down. She complained of severe pains in the abdomen and limbs. Otis and Mr. Price came in for supper and I told them they would have to go with me to a restaurant. Returning to the house I found wife suffering more severely and vomiting. After trying various home remedies, including the application of a hot water bottle, I telephoned to Dr. Keys who gave her a hyperdomic injection to relieve the intense pain. While the doctor was with her I hurried out to get a prescription filled. Otis had said he would spend the night with Mr. Price and Thelma.

Sunday, 16 Feb., Washington; fair and very cold. Water pipes and gas frozen. Had them thawed out during the day. Wife very ill and the doctor did not seem to know what the trouble was. I read the papers and wrote up my expense account for the trip to St. Paul for reimbursement by the livestock association.

✓
(Sister Nellie, 16 Feb., Washington, brown folder)

Tuesday, 18 Feb., Washington; clear and warm. After breakfast I ^acalled at the Department of Commerce and saw Mr. Bletz, secretary of the Inter American High Commission, and we discussed the part the Department of Commerce might take in the coming conference and the technical papers, especially commercial statistics, that could be supplied.

Had luncheon with the Farm Hands Club, where I talked with Mr. Flood, associate editor of the Nebraska Farmer, who with a companion made a trip around the world and across Africa at the lower edge of the Sahara on motor cycles. Also talked with Mr. James of the Office of Public Roads, who had been working in Colombia with a commission on good roads. He expressed the opinion that it would be very difficult to construct a road in the territory just south of Panama because much of it is covered by mangrove swamps. There were brief talks by members of the Vocational Education Board.

At the conclusion of the luncheon Mr. Loomis, Master of Potomac No. 1 Grange, called a meeting of ~~such~~ such members of the Grange as were present to consider a program for "William Saunders Day." Mr. Saunders was one of the founders of the first Grange ever organized, landscape ^{up}gardener of the capitol, ^{and} the first superintendent of gardens and grounds in the Department of Agriculture. It had been decided to honor the memory of Mr. Saunders ~~at~~ and other granges throughout the country were ^{expecting} ~~looking for~~ the Potomac Grange to take the lead with a suitable program. I was appointed to represent the Department of Agriculture. On the way back I stopped at the office of the Federal Farm Board to see Mr. Christianson and Mr. McKay about preparing papers on agricultural cooperation for the conference. Both agreed to see that the papers were prepared.

At the office I found that several technical papers had come to my desk. All together it was a busy day.

At the house I found wife sitting up but very weak. Some of the neighbors called.

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4089

Otis came in at 6.45 p.m. and together we went to a restaurant for supper. I ~~or~~ persistently tried to engage him in conversation, but he was taciturn, glum, and obstinate. Within a few minutes after returning to the house he started ~~out~~ out. Wife ⁴called to him and he answered huffily "Going out." From the restaurant I brought back some hot soup for my wife. Later she asked for ice cream and I got a supply for her and a visitor.

Wednesdg, 19 Feb., Washington; clear and warm. Wife passed a bad night.

At the office I dictated some letters and then called on Mr. Allanson. During the ~~h~~ old Congressional seed distribution days he was employed in my office. Now he was Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry. We discussed both the participation of his bureau in the conference and the program for "William Saunders Day." Talking with Mr. Allanson I learned that Dr. B. T. Galloway entered the service with a ^{salary} ~~salary~~ of \$1⁷/₄400 a year in 1887 and organized the first Bureau of Plant Pathology in the world; that Dr. Coville, botanist, entered in 1888, Dr. Woods in 1893, and Prof. Corbett in 1901.

Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Dr. Woods. Saw Mr. Brand, the first chief of the Office of Markets that later became part of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

At the house I found wife much worse, lying down, faced flushed, with fever, and suffering ~~great~~ great pain. The doctor had called in the morning and had frightened her by saying that he would call the next day with another doctor and take a sample of her blood, and that if she did not get better an operation might be necessary. She was frightened, very weak, and wept when she told me about it. I tried to reassure and calm her. I went out and bought a piece of steak and had it chopped up fine. Then I asked Miss Jenkins upstairs

Pages 4090 - 4091 out children

"U.S.Department of Agriculture,
Office of Information,
Press Service.

"Release--Immediate.

Washington, D.C., February 19, 1930.

ESTABROOK TO MAKE PLANS FOR
INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE
ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY.

"Leon M. Estabrook of the foreign service of the U.S.Department of Agriculture, who for the last five years has been in charge of the World Census of Agriculture, with headquarters at Rome, has returned to Washington for a temporary assignment in the office of the Secretary of Agriculture.

"He will assist Dr. A.F.Woods, Director of Scientific Work, in making arrangements with the Department of State and the Pan American Union for the Inter American Conference on Agriculture, Forestry, and Animal Industry, to be held at Washington, September 8-20, 1930.

"The Conference is the outgrowth of recommendations of the Sixth International Conference of American States, held at Havana in 1928. The purpose of the conference is to consider plant and animal production, and to develop plans for all phases of agricultural cooperation. Each nation in North, Central, and South America will be asked to send an official delegate as well as other delegates who are specialists in agricultural production and marketing. The conference will come one week ahead of the Sixth International Road Congress, and it is expected that many of the delegates will attend both conferences.

"During the two years, 1923-24, Mr.Estabrook was loaned by the Department of Agriculture to the Argentine Government to reorganize its service of agricultural economics and statistics. In the last five years in his work on the World Census of Agriculture Mr.Estabrook visited the capitals and agricultural production centers of every country of the world with the ~~exception of three.~~ ^{exception of three.}

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4092

Thursday, 20 Feb., Washington; clear and warm. Wife rested well, but very weak. My breakfast consisted^s of milk and crackers. After making wife comfortable I walked to the Pan American Union and had a long interview with the Assistant Director. I asked why mention of cooperation in meteorology between the American governments had been omitted from the program of the conference. He said it had simply been overlooked. He agreed that the program needed revision and we agreed upon a plan for getting the technical papers translated. He took me to the room that had been assigned to the new Division of Agricultural Cooperation and introduced me to the new chief, Sr. Jose L. Colom, from Porto Rico, who seemed to be under the impression that he was to take a leading part in formulating and executing the program for the conference. I assured him that I would welcome his assistance.

When I reached the office I found a note saying that my son wanted to speak to me. Thinking that it might be a message about my wife I ~~ask~~ called up the house. My wife answered. She said the doctor had been to see her and that Mrs. Bode was with her. Then she said that Otis had been in to see her about his Florida trip and that Mr. Price had orders to leave that afternoon. She wanted Otis to go because the poor boy needed a vacation and it would do him so much good. I suggested that the "poor boy" had done nothing to deserve a vacation, that he had been on a continuous vacation for more than a year, that it was a pleasure trip that would cost money that I could not spare, and that if anybody needed a vacation it was her or Thelma. Then she began to ~~be~~ plead, became pathetic in her concern, and finally became hysterical and began to weep; and all the time I could picture her at the other end of the line, out of a sick bed, hardly able to stand, weak, crying, and distressed. She said she had talked it over with Mr. Price who assured her that the boy

could go with him and share his room and the only expense would be for meals at cheap hotels and restaurants, and above all things in the world she wanted the poor boy to go and have that wonderful experience, and then she began to cry again. I was distressed because of her condition and attitude and because the whole scheme was against my better judgment, but to quiet my wife I consented and said "All right, dear, provided it does not cost us anything and the boy keeps his promise to find employment, although I do not approve of the project at all; I think it is all wrong, but for your sake the boy may go."

Shortly afterwards Otis came to the office and I took him out to a nearby restaurant for luncheon. He was too excited to eat. After luncheon I walked with him up 14th Street as far as the Avenue. He said that Mr. Price had to leave that afternoon, that Mommie had said he could go, and that he had barely time to pack his valise. I asked him how much he thought it would cost. He said it would not cost anything; all he wanted was my consent. I asked him how he ~~they~~ thought Mommie and Thelma could be cared for during his absence and while I was at the office. "Oh, they'll get along all right," he answered cheerfully, "they're not as sick as they make out." When we reached the Avenue I said: "See here Otis, all this foolishness about a vacation trip to Florida is all wrong for the reasons I have stated and which you do not seem to appreciate; but Mommie is ill, weak, and delicate, and she cried over the telephone about it, and that is the only reason I have consented to your going. I think you are very ignorant and very selfish. I do not blame you for wanting to go but I do blame you for being so childish in thinking you must have everything you want just because you want it. Now you said that when you reach Florida you are going to get a job and earn money for yourself. Is that correct, is that a promise?" "Yes," he said. "All right,

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4094

my boy, let me see you do it. Keep your promise and I will match every dollar you earn with another dollar that I have earned so that you will be making a double wage. You say that it will not cost me anything while you are away. I know better. Here is twenty-five dollars to see you through. Is it enough?" "Yes, more than enough," he replied. "All right" I said, "pack your valise and make a quick get-away; hang on to that money as your best friend until you know where more is coming from; and write Mommie a line every few days to let her know what a wonderful time you are having." He promptly disappeared.

The afternoon was a busy one at the office. I walked home and was rather tired. At the house I found three neighbor women with my wife, including Mrs. Bode. My wife said she had engaged Mrs. Bode to look after her instead of the trained nurse I had asked the doctor to get for her. I took Mrs. Bode with me to a restaurant for supper and she talked incessantly about her private affairs. I learned from my wife that Mr. Price had not announced his departure to Thelma until almost the last minute when she saw him packing up. I bought a box of candy and called at her apartment to cheer her up. I found Thelma lying on the bed dressed only in a thin light shawl that displayed her form to advantage and for the first time since we had taken her as a little child of six I saw her naked body. Walker Chapman was sitting by the bedside obviously admiring the exhibition in the nude. Thelma was very indignant and very bitter against her husband for having left her, and Walker was much embarrassed at my sudden appearance. I suggested to Thelma that she was very foolish to rail at her husband; she must know that he had to leave her for a short time to hold his job, to earn money for her and the baby, to pay for her apartment, her clothes, her food, her furniture, her everything; that he had to go when and where his employer

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4095

directed, otherwise he would be out of a job; and that he had no doubt provided her with money to pay her expenses while he had to be away. She admitted he had but was indignant because he had not told her about it sooner. I reminded her that she was still weak and that probably he himself did not know when he would have to go or even whether he would have to go at all, and that he had probably waited until the last minute out of consideration for her because he knew it would worry her, and that he had done everything he could to provide for her. I was determined not to leave until Walker left, and he soon realized that his presence was superfluous and very awkwardly he excused himself. Then I told Thelma I thought she was making a great mistake in receiving gentlemen visitors during the absence of her husband, and especially in making an exhibition of herself when they were present. She was silent, but her expression indicated that it was none of my business. I asked her what she thought of Otis leaving both herself and Mommie without any one to look after them. She was so loyal to him, however, that she refused to express any opinion, although it was clear that she resented his apparent neglect. The baby lay in a cradle to one side. I praised it and said she was fortunate to have such a fine baby and that while its father was away she must take the best care of it and of herself so that when he came back he would find her looking prettier than ever and the baby growing and crowing. Again she broke out in a bitter tirade against her husband for leaving her. After letting her express her feelings I said: "But my dear, you don't seem to understand that hospitals, doctors, nurses, medicines, apartments, furniture, clothing, and food, all cost \$ money that some one has to earn by working. Your husband is working for these things, and he has to go where his employer pays him to go. If he don't he will lose his job and have no money with which to pay for these things. It's a

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4096

lesson that both you and Otis will have to learn. You have both been badly spoiled because Mommie has been giving you everything you wanted, whether you needed it or not, and I have been paying for it, and working to earn the money to pay for it, and to do that I had to leave home and Mommie not for a month but for years. You married Mr. Price with your eyes open. You knew that he was a chauffeur. You are old enough to know that a chauffeur has to drive the car where his employer tells him. What did you expect your husband to do? Refuse to go, quit his job? Where would you be if he had? What right have you to complain? What have you done for him that he should work at ^a all hours in all sorts of weather and turn his wages over to you? Had a baby. Yes, of course; I have ~~known~~ ^{have} cats to kit-^a tens too, but they don't make a fuss about it. No, my dear, before you talk about your husband as you have talked tonight, you'd better do a little hard thinking; and, remember, you are the mother of a baby. Don't let it have an out and out fool ^{for a mother.} Nobody in their senses would receive an unmarried man in her private room dressed as you are dressed. If you want Walker you can have him a few times, yes, and lose your husband and the respect of everybody else. If you want to keep your husband signing the payroll you will have to give up other men. Your own sense should tell you that." She was silent for a moment and tears well^aed up into her eyes. Then she broke out with "I have a right to have a good time; why do other girls have good times and not me." I replied: "Because good times cost money, and money costs work and sacrifice and doing things for others. It means going to school and studying and preparing oneself for the future. Neither you nor Otis ever did anything for anybody, not even for yourselves, and you both quit school. You both had your good times the last few years, and now the time has come when you will either go without good times or ~~or~~ earn them for yourselves

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4097

by doing something for others. The best you can hope to do is to be a good wife to your husband, a good mother to your baby, and make a real home for both. You are not fit for anything ~~se~~lse, and hardly fit for that." "But," she protested "why should I have to keep house, cook and wash dishes, and clean the baby." "Because, my dear," I replied, "it is your house, your husband, and your baby, and you have no right to ask anybody else to care for them or for you, any more than another woman with a baby has a right to ask you to care for them; and you have no more right, and perhaps not as good a right, than other people to have a good time." Angrily she wanted to know why she could not work in a store or an office like other girls do and have nice dresses and go to picture shows and parties and have a good time." "Because," I replied, "neither you nor Otis knows as much as an ordinary twelve year old child and you are not qualified to do ordinary work in a ten cent store or an office. You were not interested in the shorthand and typewriting ^{Course} ~~course~~ I wanted you to take at the high school so that you could qualify for office work and be independent no matter what happened. Instead you preferred to use your sex and capture a husband. That was your deliberate independent choice. Now that you have a husband you had better stick to him, be true to him, love him, and make a good home for him, and find your good times with him, because it is your only hope; you are not fit for anything else, just because you had your good times when other girls of your age were studying and preparing for the future. You thought it would be a wonderful thing to have a husband to give you a good time and to have a baby. It is. But you have to reciprocate the affection of a husband, and you must not forget that having a baby is not so unusual or especially important. Any cat can have kittens and any bitch can have puppies;

(1930, Feb. Washington.)

E--4098.

so don't bank too much on that. Your husband has been good to you so far. He's got more sense ten times over than either you or Otis. So far as I know the only foolish thing he ever did was to marry you and the only way I can account for it is on the theory that you lied to him and deceived him and he did not take time to check up on your statements. So, my girl, you had ^{better} ~~been~~ concentrate your affections on your husband, forget about your rights, and try to make it worth his while to continue to be good to you." She was obviously distressed. I tried to reassure her by saying, "See here, my dear, don't get the blues this early in the game; show that you have some sense and a little spunk; just concentrate on your baby and think what good times you will have playing with him, caring for him, and loving him; how cute and cunning he will be when he learns to walk, and later when he learns to talk; and how your husband will love you because of the baby, and what a nice little home you can make for just the three of you, and how the other girls will envy you the good times you are having with your baby and your husband and how they will all think you have nothing to do but play with baby and husband. But if you want to realize this dream you must cut out the naked exhibitions before unmarried young men. That is absolutely final. If it happens again just forget that you have a daddy and a mommie because they will not stand for it. And don't think or say the bitter thoughts and things about your husband I have heard tonight. All this may sound like preaching to you, but it is something more than preaching, it is common sense and it is about time you had a little. Just do a little independent thinking and see if you cannot see some of the things I see and have tried to express. Another thing. You know that Mommie is ill. She is weaker and suffering more than you are. She is anxious about you. Can't you telephone her once a

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4099

day and ask how she is and tell her that you and the baby are getting along fine and pretty soon you will bring the baby down to see her? Don't you think you can do that much for Mommie, who has done so much for you?" She was silent. "All right, my dear, just think it over, and don't let the bugs bite. Good bye."

On returning to the house I found two neighbors in the dining room. Mrs. Bode, who had been engaged to look after my wife, had gone. The two neighbors left at 9 p.m. and my sick wife and I were left alone.

Friday, 21 Feb., Washington; clear and warm. It was understood that Mrs. Bode would come to look after wife. After seeing that she was comfortable I left and got breakfast down town. I spent a busy day at the department interviewing officials of the different bureaus regarding participation in the coming conference. Had an interview with Mr. Olsen who expressed apprehension that to invite private organizations to participate in the conference would be confusing and raise all sorts of controversial questions. I suggested that controversial questions were the very ones to be considered, met squarely, and good will and cooperation developed to solve them, and that if the officials of the department were afraid to meet them they had better abdicate in favor of officials who were not afraid to get down to brass tacks, and if they were wrong to admit they were wrong and ^{be} willing to get on the right track. Seeing that he was stunned by this observation, ^{I added} that if the officials of the department were not willing or able to meet all comers and all adverse criticism something was clearly wrong and they should resign, because there was nothing especially sacred about official position and that fear and apprehension was an acknowledgment of inferiority and the sooner it was all cleaned out the better. He flushed up at this statement and seemed somewhat perturbed. I said in effect

and she told me that you had the baby and
that she was pretty good you will find the baby
here. Don't you think you can do that much for
me much for you? She was silent. All right, I
it over, and she let the baby stay. Good bye.

On returning to the house I found two neighbors in the
living room. Mrs. Bode, who had been engaged to look after my wife,
and Mrs. Bode. The two neighbors left at 2 p.m. and my wife and I
were left alone.

Friday, 11 Feb., Washington; clear and warm. It was understood
that Mrs. Bode would come to a look after wife. After seeing that she
was comfortable I left and got breakfast down town. I spent a busy
day at the apartment interviewing officials of the Government
bureau regarding participation in the coming conference. In an
interview with Mr. Olsen who expressed apprehension that to invite
private organizations to participate in the conference would be
containing and raise all sorts of controversial questions. I sug-
gested that controversial questions were the very ones to be consid-
ered, and equally, and good will and cooperation developed to solve
them, and that if the officials of the Government were asked to meet
that they had better address in favor of officials who were not
likely to get down to brass tacks and if they were wrong to admit
they were wrong and willing to get the right track. Being that
he was assured by this observation that if the officials of the
Government were not willing or able to meet all corners and all ad-
verse officials something was clearly wrong and they should resign.
Because there was nothing especially asserted about official position
and that there was apprehension was an acknowledgment of inferiority
and the reason it was all cleared out the better. He finished up
at this statement and seemed somewhat perturbed. I said in return

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4100

"Why fiddle-faddle about policies and economic theories and ~~sonx~~ 'sound economic doctrines'; why not welcome all the controversial questions the delegates to the Inter American Conference have up their sleeves; why not meet them on their own ground; right is right and wrong is wrong, and the right will prevail and should prevail; if we are ~~xx~~ wrong in our plant and animal quarantines and customs regulations the sooner we know it and the sooner we change them the better; if we are right why cannot we hope to convince the other delegates that we are right; why not be honest with the others and with ourselves; why not be open and aboveboard, straight and square; why not realize that by avoiding issues we are simply begging questions, ~~xx~~ fool nobody, and make enemies instead of friends; why not realize once for all that in all matters of duplicity, trickiness, and political and economic strategy by unfair means the Latin Americans can simply ring circles ~~xx~~ around us ~~xx~~ and that the only way to meet such maneuvers successfully, ~~and win~~ disarm them, and win their honorable cooperation is by straightforward presentation of facts and absolute honesty, methods and traits which they admire above all things in the Anglo-Saxon character.

Mr. Olsen said he could not see it that way; that the United States quarantines and commercial regulations were matters requiring diplomacy and finesse. I said that so far as I could see American diplomacy and finesse had not distinguished itself either by intelligence, tact, or success, but if we went ahead on a basis of facts and frankness, common sense and common interest, and above all equality, we could hope for success in dealing with our Latin American friends in the consideration of all controversial questions in which they were particularly interested; but if we simply evaded issues and kept them out of our program we would be greatly handi-

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4101

4387

capped in the discussion of such questions when they were brought before the conference, as the surely would be, by the Latin Americans.

The interview was unsatisfactory to us both. I had luncheon with Mr. Marquis at the Cornell lunchroom. The bureau librarian called with reference to a list of foreign officials I had submitted. She said she planned to have copied out of my reports the descriptive material and publish it in pamphlet form.

Had an interview with Dr. Woods. He rather agreed with Mr. Olsen's point of view, that the conference should be in the nature of a round table discussion in which the representatives of the United States government should stand on the defensive rather than come out in the open and discuss international questions on their merits. On returning to my office I looked up the original resolution regarding the calling of such a conference and found that it was primarily "to promote cooperation."

At the house I found that Mrs. Bode had gone and Miss Jenkins was with my wife. I looked after the invalid while Miss Jenkins got her supper and when she returned I went out for mine.

Saturday, 22 Feb., Washington; fair and warm. Wife had a bad night. In the morning I telephoned for the doctor and changed the linens in the beds. Made myself a cup of coffee and had some crackers. When the doctor called he said the wife was getting along nicely. I announced that this haphazard way of living could not go on and that we must have a trained nurse, to which the doctor agreed. Wife objected. After much telephoning I succeeded in engaging a nurse who agreed to come for a twelve hour day. While waiting for the nurse I made two trips to the drug store for medicines. At wife's earnest request I put out the flag in honor of the day. Had a lot of trouble with the extensible flag pole. At 12.30 p.m. I got away for luncheon. Took a walk up 14th Street and on the way back got a

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4102

supply of groceries. Did some writing. Had a telephone message from George, the handyman, saying he was in Gallinger Hospital, that his teeth had been extracted, that he expected to have to undergo an operation the next Monday, and he hoped to be out and back with us in a few days. The daily papers said there were an unusual number of unemployed in Washington and that all charitable institutions and agencies were taxed to the utmost to care for them; also that large numbers of unemployed had flocked into Washington from other places because of published reports of a large building program and the coming census. Had an early supper and returned promptly so as to relieve the nurse.

✓
(Mother 22 Feb., Washington, brown folder)

✓
(Emma Burton, same.)

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4103

Sunday, 23 Feb. Washington; cloudy and showers. Got my own breakfast of coffee and crackers and spent the day reading the papers and writing. Wife slept some during the night and her pain subsided. The doctor said she should not get up under any circumstances, even to take a bath. During the day I administered the medicines and kept a record of temperature and pulse. During the afternoon Walker Chapman and a girl called and said Thelma had sent them for Otis's radio outfit. On the way to the restaurant for supper I ^{met} Mr. Hare, Congressman from South Carolina and a former field agent of the Bureau of Crop Estimates. He was accompanied by his wife and they cordially invited us to call on them. The nurse was with my wife all day and was quite reasonable in her requirements and pleasant to deal with.

Monday, 24 Feb., Washington; clear and warm. Had a busy forenoon at the office. Lunched at the Cosmos Club. Stopped in a hat store. The same hat^t, made by the same firm, a duplicate in all respects of the one I was wearing and had purchased in Rome for five dollars, was priced here at ten dollars. That did not seem right. I bought a cheap American hat and left my Italian hat to be cleaned and blocked.

At the house wife reported a good day. She had a ~~post~~card from Otis postmarked at Raleigh, North Carolina. This cheered her greatly.

~~(Prof. Bolley, 24 Feb., Washington, salmon folder)~~ omit

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4104

Tuesday, 25 Feb., Washington; clear and warm. I was awakened at 7 a.m. by the door bell. A messenger handed me a special delivery letter from Otis dated February 23, the day he arrived at Miami, saying that his allowance was exhausted and to send him more money. Pretty good, I thought, for a young lord to spend twenty-five dollars in three days on a trip that he had insisted would cost nothing. Inclosed was a short note to my wife asking her to send his bathing suit.

I got my ~~kw~~ own breakfast and was at the office by 9.15 a.m. Read the tentative program for the conference for the hundredth time. Then walked to the Pan American Union by way of the Monument. From the knoll about the base of the monument one has a good view of the city, the river in the bright sunlight, and the Lincoln Memorial, that purest of all classic Greek temples.

At the Pan American Union I met Dr. Gil Borges, the Assistant Director; Mr. Bletz of the Pan American High Commission; and two others. The subject of the conference was "Standardization," but it was hardly mentioned. Because of the hesitation of the others to discuss the subject of our meeting I brought up the question of the real object of the coming Inter American Conference on Agriculture, whether it was to promote cooperation in scientific research, as Dr. Woods said it was, or whether it was to promote cooperation along agricultural lines in the American countries, as I was inclined to believe. Then I read off a series of notes I had made in order to get their reaction and comments. While this was going on Dr. Rowe entered and I gave a brief resume of our conversation up to that point and went on with my notes. He approved my ideas straight through and the others followed. I felt a little embarrassed at monopolizing the meeting and the attention of the others, but had the feeling that perhaps that was my special function, to give

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4105

thought to all the details and contingencies, formulate a definite opinion concerning them, and submit them to and discuss them with others, rather than wait upon others to take the initiative.

While we were in session the Pan American Building filled up with members of the womens clubs of the city who were to have a formal luncheon there. Our meeting adjourned at 1.30 p.m. I walked as far as the Avenue with Mr. Bletz, who said that the job of drawing up a program and organizing the Inter American Conference on Agriculture was entirely too big for any one man and that committees in each of the departments should be appointed to assist me. He advised me not to place too much dependence upon the Pan American Union but to go ahead and prepare the kind of a program the Department of Agriculture wanted and the Union would accept it.

I took a taxi to the Harrington Hotel and reached the Farm Hands Club before it adjourned. Heard a talk by Mr. Truesdell on the U.S. census and one by Chester Gray summarizing pending legislation affecting agriculture..

After the luncheon Mr. Loomis ~~xxx~~ ~~xxx~~ called another meeting of Grange members to consider the program for "William Saunders Day."

On the walk back to the office I met Mr. D.N. Shoemaker, who said he was working on Jerusalem artichokes & from which he said the Bureau of Standards had found a way to extract levulose. He said the Jerusalem artichoke was grown principally in the Northwest Pacific coast region for pigs. I met also Peter Bisset of the Plant Quarantine Section who said he had just submitted a paper explaining how to get rid of nematodes in the roots of plants by soaking them in hot water. He expressed the opinion that probably Dr. Galloway would not return to the department because of poor health.

The afternoon was really hot and I sat in my office with

(1903, Feb. Washington)

E--4106

windows and doors open. When I returned to the house I found wife resting well.

Wednesday, 26 Feb., Washington; cloudy and ~~warm~~ warm. Wife rested well, but was white, thin, very weak, and had a region of constant pain in the abdomen. As soon as the nurse arrived I went out for breakfast at a restaurant. It was a springlike day, with the buds swelling in Lafayette Square and lawns greening up.

At the office I dictated a ten page summary of my interview at the Pan American Union the previous day, in order to make it a matter of record.

In the evening I went to the Grange meeting in the Unitarian Church and gave a talk on Albania. Mr. Pike Johnson gave a running talk with moving pictures taken in connection with the good roads congress in South America. Both were well received. It was 11 p.m. when I reached home.

Thursday, 27 Feb., Washington; variable and turning colder. After the nurse came I had breakfast at a restaurant. Had a busy day at the office, mostly with the telephone. The chief of the stenographic section came in to apologize for the stenographer he had sent me the previous day because she was a beginner. He said the stenographers all liked to come to me because I was so considerate and patient with them and my dictation came so smoothly and was always interesting. This I considered to be a compliment. It was due largely to the fact that I first drafted anything I had to write in shorthand so that in dictating all I had to do was to read my notes without hitch or pausing to make corrections. *P* A representative of the press service called for information that would enable him to write an article about Argentina. This did not appeal to me and I suggested that if he wanted to write about Argentina he should first read up on the subject, write a rough

(1903, Feb. Washington)

E--4107

draft of his article, and I would then correct it for him, but I did not feel inclined to dictate ~~an~~ article and have it go out over the signature of some one else. He did not return. *P*In the late afternoon I had a visit from Mr. Jahn, a bluff German who spoke English quite well. He was from Caracas, Venezuela, and had been described to me as an engineer who knew more about Venezuela than any other man in it. He promised all sorts of cooperation in the coming conference. Also he said that if he could not attend the conference he wanted me to make a visit to him at Caracas. Among other things he said he had a Pan American family--six or eight daughters, each married to a man who resided in a different country, including several South American countries, the United States, Spain, and one or two other European countries. He said that once a year he tried to visit them in succession in order to preserve international good will and the entente cordial. He was very interesting and I should like to have seen more of him but he was leaving that evening and had several appointments to keep.

At the house I found wife feeling better and greatly pleased at receiving a string of ^{cheap} beads from Otis and a letter from Mr. Price and one from Emma Burton. Thelma and her companion, Nadine, brought the baby over and left it with us while they went out to buy a baby carriage. My old Italian hat came from the cleaners ~~and~~ and looked as good as new.

Friday, 28 Feb., Washington; cloudy and cold. Wife about the same. I went out for breakfast after the nurse came. At the office I ran through a lot of papers on my desk. Had a talk with Dr. Woods and left with him a memorandum of things done and yet to be done. We were both concerned at the delay of Congress in passing the resolution ~~concerning~~ authorizing the conference and providing the necessary funds. On returning to my office I called up Dr. Spillman,

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4108

a personal friend of Senator Borah, and asked if he could not interest the Senator in getting action on the resolution. He said he would and suggested that some results might be secured by having the proper officials of the State Department, Department of Agriculture, and the Pan American Union, call up the secretaries of the various senators and try to stir up interest in that way. I at once called up Dr. Woods for the Department of Agriculture, Dr. Gil Borges of the Pan American Union, and representatives of the foreign divisions of the State Department and the Department of Commerce, and asked them to see what could be done to interest the senators in our conference resolution, which they promised to do. The rest of the day I spent working on an agenda or daily program for the conference.

After office hours I called at ^{the} a real estate office of Mr. Linkins regarding the sale of our house. He was a glib talker and hard to hold to the subject in which I was interested. I understood from what he said that there had been a tremendous slump in real estate values and business. He mentioned a house and lot on L Street near our house that was assessed at \$21,000 that had sold recently for \$15,000. I tried to get him to say what in his judgment would be a fair asking price for my house and lot that were assessed at \$24,000. He said he would consult some of his friends and let me know later.

I stopped on Connecticut Avenue for supper. At the house I found wife in bed, the rooms in absolute darkness, and the gas mantels removed. I had to fumble about for a flash light so that I could put on new mantels and get a permanent light. One of my wife's preferences was for darkness and an aversion to light and she had removed the mantels. She was feeling much depressed and I had to insist that she remain in bed until the doctor said she might

(1903, Feb. Washington)

E--4109

might leave it, and the doctor had said that if she got up then she would surely have a relapse and a prolonged period of suffering that might make it necessary to remove her to a hospital for an operation. I ~~try~~ tried to reassure her on this point and make ~~he~~ her see that it was worth while to be patient until she was strong enough to get up without a relapse. *P* George, the handyman, returned from the hospital with all his teeth out. He had pitched in and ~~cleaned~~ up my den and fixed the fires before I returned. *P* Had a letter from one of the ~~Yold~~ field agents referring regretfully to the old days when I was in charge and the men felt free to consult me about their official troubles.

At the office I wrote a letter to our California field agent, Mr. Kaufman, for information about Mr. Simon J. Lubin and the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Conference that he was trying to organize to meet in Sacramento about the time of the meeting of the Inter American Conference on Agriculture in Washington. I kept ~~hearing~~^r references to the trade conference but no one seemed to have definite information regarding it.

Saturday, 1 March, Washington; ~~far~~ fair and cold. Wife feeling somewhat better. Spent the day working on agenda for the conference. In the evening paid the nurse for the week. As she was leaving the house Emma Burton, wife's niece, came in prepared to stay the night.

Sunday, 2 March, Washington; cloudy and cold. George was on hand early to fix the fires and he cooked breakfast for Emma Burton and I. The doctor telephoned the nurse that wife might dress and sit up, which she did. I read the papers and wrote some letters. After luncheon I called a taxi and took Emma to the bus station for her return to Richmond. Thelma, Nadine, and the baby spent the afternoon with us. Wrote a rather severe letter to Otis and inclosed

(1903, Feb. Washington)

E--4110

a check for twenty-five dollars to come home on. The wife decided that the nurse would not be needed the following day now that George had returned and could look after the house and cook simple meals.

(Otis, 2 March, Washington, salmon folder.

(Mother, same.

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4111

Monday, 3 March, Washington; clear and cold, down to 21 degrees F. Working on agenda. Had a call from Mr. Haskell, who looked discouraged. He said apparently the only hope of getting funds to finance his proposed trip to South America was through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Had a call from the Press Service about a newspaper correspondent who wanted a story about the conference, but he failed to come. Had several visitors, a number of telephone calls, and received one technical paper.

~~At the house I found a letter from Charles Worthy saying he had given up his position as assistant manager of the moving picture show in Martinsburg and was coming to Washington and would call tomorrow. Wife said he had already called and would spend stay with us temporarily and occupy Otis's room. He returned about 5 o'clock. He seemed quite confident that he could obtain employment in the census bureau. He had already dined, so I went out alone for supper at a restaurant. The doctor had prescribed a tonic and wife was looking somewhat better.~~

Tuesday, 4 March, Washington; clear and cold. At the office began to draft an outline of the statistics that should be compiled especially for the conference. At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Mr. Taber, Master of the National Grange, ~~said~~ said there was much difference of opinion in farm organizations concerning the Federal Farm Board, especially as to whether its facilities should be open to all or restricted to a few, but that the Grange was in favor of making all government facilities available without restriction to every one in need of them. ^{Jessie}Mr. Pope spoke for the Northwest and said that most farmers in that region were in debt, their mortgages were being foreclosed, that syndicates had been formed to buy up the lands at foreclosure prices and then consolidate and operate them under technical management. I made a brief statement regarding

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4112

the Inter American Conference on Agriculture.

At the house Charles Worthy asked for the loan of my portable typewriter for some letters. I said that the portable typewriter was like my fountain pen, something I would not ~~in~~ lend to any one, not even my wife, but he was welcome to use the old Remington that I had cleaned and oiled recently. Wife went with me to the restaurant across Connecticut Avenue for supper. After supper Thelma and Nadine called. Wife said a number of neighbors had been in during the day.

Wednesday, 5 March, Washington; Clear and cold. Spent the forenoon working on the agenda. Had several visitors and telephone calls. Mr. Waller, a correspondent of the Associated Press, called at 2.30 p.m. and stayed until 5 p.m. He wanted a story about the world agricultural census and also about the Inter American Conference, and said he would ask the editor of the American Magazine if he would accept a story on my unique experiences. Also had a call from Mr. James of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce regarding the proposal of Mr. Haskell to visit South America to drum up interest in the conference. During the conversation with Mr. Waller something was said that reminded me of Mr. Blackwell, the mountaineer caretaker at Black Rock Springs, who, when he heard of Roosevelt's election, said he thought he had "hearn tell of that feller before." Then Mr. Waller told the story of a politician who approached a voter in Indiana. It was a presidential election year and the voter asked who was running. "Never heard of him" said the voter. And so on through the last three counties, the only response was "Never heard of him." Finally the candidate asked a voter if he had ever heard of George Washington. "No, never heard of that feller either," was the reply. "Well, how about Abraham Lincoln?" he asked. "No, never heard of him either." "Well, how about God," asked the candidate. "Oh, him, yes, that's

(1930, March, Washington.)

E--4113

the feller whose other name is 'damn.'"

Thursday, 6 March, Washington; clear and warmer. Saw Dr. Woods and submitted a draft of the agenda I had prepared with which he expressed himself as being pleased. Had a series of interviews regarding technical papers for the conference.

Mr. Worthy had offered to sell his car for \$650 with the understanding that the Buick Company would allow a trade in value of \$900 on it in exchange for a new car. However, when I consulted a Buick dealer he said the trade in value was only \$500.

The Johnstons spent the evening with us and did not depart until 11.30 p.m.

Friday, 7 March, Washington; cold and threatening rain. Mr. James of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce called up to ask where he should send checks that were received as contributions for Mr. Haskell's trip. I asked for time to consider. The Disbursing Officer of the Department of Agriculture said he had no authority to handle any private funds. I called up Dr. Woods and suggested that such funds be turned over to the Tropical Research Foundation for custody, which he approved, but suggested that I see Dr. L.R. Jones of the Wisconsin University, a member of the board of governors of the Foundation, who was then at the Cosmos Club. I succeeded in finding Dr. Jones and he promptly approved the idea and and telephoned Mrs. Owen, secretary of the Foundation, authority to administer any cooperative funds that might be sent to her.

Dictated a series of letters to chiefs of bureaux asking them to have abstracts or summaries made of the technical papers submitted, and drafts of appropriate resolutions prepared for use at the conference.

Mr. Worthy received notification of appointment in the Bureau of the Census, at which he was much elated. Had a letter from Mr.

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4114

Price at Miami saying that Otis had received my letter and had shown it to him. He added that Otis had spent the first \$25 I gave him and borrowed from him (Mr. Price) \$19 more, a total of \$44 for seven days away from home, on a trip that was to cost nothing. He said that my letter was just what Otis needed and that the boy had started out to visit the garages of Miami in search of work.

(Mr. Price, 7 March, Washington, brown folder.)

(Sister Nellie, same.)

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4115

Saturday, 8 March, Washington; clear and cool. Attended a conference between Dr. Woods and Dr. Jones, at which Mrs. Fealey, secretary of Dr. Woods, and Mrs. Owen, secretary of the Tropical Research Foundation, were present and participating, to discuss a letter I had prepared outlining the method of handling cooperative funds contributed for the South American trip, so as to avoid future misunderstanding. The letter was approved and signed. Mr. Haskell was then admitted and instructed as where to go and whom to see in the event funds continued to be received and the trip actually materialized. Mr. Woods asked me to see Mr. James at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and urge prompt action in securing funds. I did so, and Mr. James took me in to see Mr. Dean, chief of the agricultural division, with whom I had a very satisfactory interview. Then Mr. James took me through the building and the various divisions. The building is a monumental one on the old Corcoran estate facing Lafayette Square, and ~~employed~~ ^{had there was} a large force of employes.

After luncheon at the Cosmos Club I dictated a number of letters, including a circular addressed to chiefs of bureaux asking for criticisms of the proposed agenda and constructive suggestions..

At 3 p.m. I walked with Mr. Tolley to the National Museum where Dr. John D. Black talked on methods of analyzing economic data. It was a good lecture of its kind but, as might be expected, stressed the importance of having all interpretations made by economists. Theoretically this is correct and logical, but wrong in practice because of the lack of practical experience of economists and their ignorance of and contempt for the vital factor of human psychology.

At the house I found Thelma and the baby. She was very quiet. Said she had a letter from Mr. Price saying that Otis contemplated trying for work at the docks. After supper I visited a second hand book store and bought some books.

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4116

Sunday, 9 March, Washington; clear and warmer. Charles Worthy drove me out to Winworth. I took some presents for mother, sister, and Eunice. En route he stopped at a filling station and discovered that he had left his pocket book at the house, so I lent him some money which he repaid the same afternoon. The country was looking well, wheat fields green, and much newly plowed ground for corn. We found the folks at Winworth all well. The horses were in good condition and old Barney looked bigger than ever. Sister Nellie showed me with pride her poultry house full of chickens. She said the young ones had already cost her sixty dollars and she had to feed and water them every three hours. Mother and sister had combined to purchase a new Ford coupe and were very enthusiastic about it. It made me think perhaps a coupe would answer my purpose, quite large enough for wife and myself, and Otis could ride in the rumble seat; and if my official employment continued I could turn it in on a sedan. Mother and sister were very indignant when I described Otis's conduct and my wife's obsessions regarding him. Charlie and Eunice gave us some good music on the piano and violin before we left. I told Charlie that I would gladly exchange Sunny Hill Farm for his ability to play the piano. ~~Eunice was staying with Sister Nellie at Winworth and working in a beauty parlor in Frederick to learn the business, which she said was a prosperous one.~~ We reached home at 6 o'clock. Wife had prepared a nice supper. She was much depressed over Otis's situation.

Monday, 10 March, Washington; clear and warm. Routine work at the office until 4 p.m., when I met a committee in the office of Assistant Secretary Dunlap to consider the program for "William Saunders Day" as planned by the Grange for April 30th. After much discussion the ^{matter} ~~matter~~ was left in the hands of a subcommittee composed of the Assistant Secretary and myself.

(1930, March, Washington)

E-4117

After supper I took my wife around to the Ford agency and we inspected a town sedan and a coupe. Both were new and shiny, the sedan priced at \$845 and the coupe much cheaper. Partly to tease my wife I suggested that the coupe would answer our purpose nicely, now that only she and I were left. She flared up very indignantly and wanted to know where Otis would sit, and when I suggested the rumble seat she was even more indignant.

Tuesday, 11 March, Washington; raining and cold. I went before a notary to swear that Charles Worthy was the person who enlisted during the war under that name and was the identical Charles Worthy who signed his name in the civil service examination as Charles W. Worthy. Dictated letters and memoranda at the office. Had a letter from Samuel Fleming, a former field agent of the Bureau of Crop Estimates in Florida and then assistant director of Experiment Stations in that State, asking me to meet the University officials at Gainesville and discuss cooperation with Latin American countries.

The afternoon was a halfholiday because of the funeral of Ex-President Taft. Attended the Farm Hands Club luncheon. Went to the Ford agency and purchased a town sedan to be fully equipped with well fenders, two extra tires, and a trunk in the rear, turning in the old car for an allowance of \$100. On reaching the house I was foolish enough to try to tease my wife by saying that I was sure she would be pleased with the nice new coupe I had purchased, which was so bright, new, and shiny, so cheap, so efficient, and just the right size for us two. The vehemence with which she announced that she would never ride in it surprised me. "All right, my dear," I said, "you don't have to; I will find some pretty girl to ride in it with me." I had much wanted a Buick, but because I would have very little use for a car except to run out to Sunny Hill on Sundays I felt

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4118

felt that a Ford would answer just as well, the loss on deterioration would be less, and if all went well I could trade it in on a Buick next year.

✓
(Longobardi, 11 March, Washington, brown folder)

"Washington, D.C., 11 March 1930.

"Dear Mr. Longobardi:

"Time slips away so rapidly that weeks pass before letters are written. Since my return I have received two or three letters from you and one from Miss Vanzetti, and one from the Secretary General, to some of which I have replied. I greatly enjoy being with my family and friends, but the weather has been so cold and disagreeable that I have not yet seen much of Washington, which changed greatly during my long absence.

"Upon my return to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics there seemed to be some confusion and apprehension on the part of the administrative staff, partly due to the long absence of Mr. Olsen, the chief, on account of illness, and partly because they did not know what to do with me. When I realized their embarrassment I brought the matter to the attention of my old friend Dr. Woods, Director of Scientific Work, and was immediately appointed to the Office of the Secretary and assigned as assistant to Dr. Woods. My first work is that of formulating a program and organizing the Inter-American Conference on Agriculture, Forestry, and Animal Industry that is to be held in Washington next September 8-20, to which the twenty-one governments members of the Pan American Union will be invited to send delegates. The Conference will have for its object a series of round table discussions of biological, statistical, educational and economic problems of the American countries relating to agriculture with a view to mapping out programs of fundamental scientific research and establishing some permanent form of co-operation between the countries. The work will be interesting. It brings me in contact with the administrative and research leaders of the department, officials of the Pan American Union, and of the State Department, and I shall expect to meet again some of the friends I met in South America. I feel that any progress made in strengthening and

developing the agricultural and statistical departments of the Central and South American States will also contribute to better service for the Institute in future.

"I still occupy a small room in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics but will move into the new building as soon as it is completed. Mr. Hobson occupied^s a small room next to mine and we see each other almost daily. He has been placed in charge of the foreign service of the Bureau and I presume that he will visit Europe occasionally.

"I am looking forward to the opening of spring within the next few weeks when Washington and the surrounding country will look their best. I have just purchased a new car and will run up to my mountain farm almost weekly and again enjoy my beloved flowers. Our adopted daughter has a new baby, so we are now grandparents by proxy.

"With kindest regards to all members of the Casetta family and other friends at the Institute.

Sincerely yours,

"Leon M. Estabrook.

developing the agricultural and statistical departments of the Central and South American States will also contribute to better service for the Institute in future.

"I still occupy a small room in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics but will move into the new building as soon as it is completed. Mr. Hobson occupies a small room next to mine and we see each other almost daily. He has been placed in charge of the foreign service of the Bureau and I presume that he will visit Europe occasionally.

"I am looking forward to the opening of spring within the next few weeks when Washington and the surrounding country will look their best. I have just purchased a new car and will run up to my mountain farm almost weekly and again enjoy my beloved flowers. Our adopted daughter has a new baby, so we are now grandparents by proxy.

"With kindest regards to all members of the Cassette family

and other friends at the Institute.

Sincerely yours,

"Leon F. Metchnikoff."

(1930, March, Washington)

E-4119

Wednesday, 12 March, Washington; clear with strong wind. Stopped at the Pan American Union to see what correspondence was on file with the University of Florida. Then to the Tropical Research Foundation on the same mission. Found none. Mrs. Owen said, however, that there had been an understanding between the Foundation, the National Research Council, and the University of Miami, regarding postgraduate work on tropical ~~plants~~ agriculture.

At the office I dictated a memorandum for Dr. Woods regarding the proposed conference at Gainesville, which he approved provided the University would pay my travel expenses. Drafted a program for the Grange celebration of "William Saunders Day." Charles Worthy took wife and I up to the Unitarian Church for the Grange meeting in the evening. Seventeen new members were initiated, including Mr. Graham of the Extension Service and Dr. Duvel of the Grain Futures Administration.

Thursday, 13 March, Washington; clear and warmer. Went to the garage and paid the balance due on the new sedan. Had a quiet day at the office. Called at the Traffic Bureau regarding my driver's license but found it closed. Had several calls about insurance on the new car, although the car had not yet been delivered.

Friday, 14 March, Washington; clear and cool. Called up a number of officials in the different bureaus to ascertain progress on technical papers in preparation.

Left early and went to the Traffic Bureau where I made out an application for a license. A man from the garage brought over the new sedan and drove out as far as P Street, where I took the wheel and drove out 16th Street to Rock Creek Park and back. Got along nicely, although it had been several years since I had driven a car.

At the office checking up on the statistics that had been furnished and to be furnished. ~~Wife had a fish supper, with Charles~~
Worthy as guest.

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4120

Saturday, 15 March, Washington; fair and cold. Last night I had a sudden and violent revulsion of feeling caused by my wife's refusal to speak after we retired. I leaped out of bed, put on a dressing gown and went down to my den in the basement and tried to sleep on a couch. She came down at 6 a.m., evidently having passed a bad night herself, and insisted that I go upstairs because of the coal gas in the basement. The gas was rather dense and I suffered a headache from it all day.

Not much to do at the office but wait for technical papers to be submitted, so I worked on a systematic scheme of addresses with names and titles, and read some of Mr. Dean's monographs on "Large Scale Agriculture," and "Mechanization of Agriculture."

Left early and went out with an employe of the garage and drove the new car ~~out~~ to the Memorial Bridge and around the Speedway, back to the house and into the garage. This last was a delicate operation because the alley was very narrow and the level of the garage floor was above that of the alley, making manipulation of gas and ~~breaks~~^{brakes} as well as steering very difficult. I succeeded but was very nervous afterwards.

Thelma and Nadine made a short call. I was left alone with Nadine in the sitting room. Conversation with her was difficult, but I succeeded in learning that her mother expected to marry again soon, although she might have to go to a sanatorium first; that Nadine was employed in a barbecue lunch room at the Virginia end of the highway bridge, her hours being from 12 noon to 12 midnight one day, and the next day from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m., for which she was paid \$5 a week and tips, the tips ranging from one to three dollars a day. She sat opposite me with her legs wide apart. Her slirts were short and I could see that her shapely legs were bare above her rolltop stockings. Throughout her visit she did not venture a single

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4121

remark. It was a distinct relief when Thelma reappeared. Wife and I had supper at the restaurant opposite Stoneleigh Court. Upon returning I heard some good music over the radio.

Sunday, 16 March, Washington; clear and warm. After reading the papers I succeeded in getting the new car out of the garage and drove out to Winworth where Sister Nellie had prepared a nice chicken dinner. ^{Eunice} ~~She~~ showed me an evening gown she had made over from a day dress. She confessed she did not like the work at the beauty shop, but the proprietor was making money and she hoped to learn the business and open a beauty parlor of her own. The coming of mechanical music was a tragedy for her and Charlie, because music was their profession and now there was no demand for it. I made the trip back without accident, which greatly increased my confidence in the new car. Wife had refused my invitation to go with me. Charlie had supper with us and then took his belongings to a room he had rented on Pennsylvania Avenue convenient to his office. This left wife and I alone.

Monday, 17 March, Washington; warmer and threatening showers. Had an interview with Dr. Woods and arranged for a conference of bureau chiefs in his office the following Monday. Spent the rest of the day drafting memoranda concerning it. Had a long interview with Mr. Campbell, Director of Regulatory Work, about the administration of regulatory and research work and the desirability of having an assistant secretary in charge of each.

After Mr. Campbell left I walked up 14th Street with Dr. Galpin, agricultural sociologist of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and then caught a taxi to the house where I had a luncheon of crackers and milk. Then went out with the new car in company with an employee of the garage. With him at my side I drove out to Rock Creek Park and back, and then to the garage where I had purchased the machine.

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4122

The car was supposed to be fully equipped when I paid for it, but one well fender, two extra tires, and an outfit of tools were lacking, and the unbreakable windshield showed cracks around the edges and the firm had promised to remedy all these things but had not ~~don~~ done so. The agent was a little indifferent at first until I became caustic in my remarks and threatened to leave the car in his garage and report the defects to headquarters at Detroit. Then he supplied a kit of tools and promised to fix the other things. The tools were of the ten cent variety and neither the pump nor the jack could be used.

Had a letter from the lecturer of the Grange at Bryantown asking me to talk at the April 3 meeting.

Tuesday, 18 March, Washington; fair and warm. Dictated a number of letters. At the Farm Hands Club luncheon heard an interesting talk by the editor of "The Farmer and the Farmer's Wife" of St. Paul, on farm women. Mr. Kyle gave a humorous account of the manner in which the lobby investigating committee of the House of Representatives had been making capital by badgering witnesses like so many criminal prosecutors, misrepresenting the statements they made and putting statements into the record they did not make and refusing to let them correct or eliminate the outrageous statements attributed to them. Mr. Montgomery said that a study of business depressions in the past showed that recovery came from twelve to eighteen months after the beginning of them. The present depression began in July, 1929, and it might be expected to end at the close of 1930. Assistant Secretary Dunlap expressed himself as pessimistic regarding the farm outlook, and he wanted it understood that his forecast was independent of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

In the afternoon I called up the chief clerk of the department and asked if any provision had been made for a room for my office

The car was supposed to be fully equipped when I left, but one well known, two extra tires, and an outfit of tools were packed in, and the unbreakable windshield showed cracks around the edges and the firm had promised to remedy all these things but had not done so. The agent was a little indifferent at first until I became impatient in my remarks and threatened to leave the car in his garage and report the defects to headquarters at Detroit. Then he supplied a kit of tools and promised to fix the other things. The tools were of the best variety and neither the pump nor the jack could be used.

Had a letter from the Director of the Bureau of Hygiene asking me to talk at the April 5 meeting. Tuesday, 12 March, Washington; rain and wind. Dictated a number of letters. At the Fair Trade Club I heard an interesting talk by the editor of "The Farmer and the Farmer's Wife" of St. Paul, on farm women. Mr. Kyle gave a humorous account of the manner in which the lobby investigators' committee of the House of Representatives had been misled by deceptive witnesses like so many criminal prosecutors, misrepresenting the statements they made and putting statements into the record that did not make sense. He refused to let them collect or distribute the outrageous statements attributed to them. Mr. Montgomery said that a study of business decisions in the past showed that recovery came from failure within months after the beginning of them. The present depression began in July, 1929, and it might be expected to end at the close of 1935. Assistant Secretary Holmes expressed himself as optimistic regarding the fair outlook, and he wanted to understand that his forecast was independent of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In the afternoon I called on the chief clerk of the department and asked if any provision had been made for a room for my office.

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4123

in the new administration building that was nearing completion. He assured me that a room would be set aside for me.

I called at the garage and found that the new car was not ready. I authorized the manager to have some insurance issued against liability for damage to other cars in case of accident. Wife and I had supper at a restaurant and returned in time to hear Amos and Andy over the radio.

Wednesday, 19 March, Washington; fair, cold, strong wind. Busy with letters at the office. Renewed membership in the American Automobile Association. At the garage was told that the insurance policy on the car was not ready but would be mailed to me. Stopped at the real/estate office of Mr. Linkins, but he had no information as to a fair price on my house. After supper took wife to see a picture show which we did not like.

(Pearson, of Cornell, 19 March, salmon folder)

"Washington, D.C., 19 March 1930.

"Dr. F.A. Pearson,
"Department of Agricultural Economics,
"New York State College of Agriculture,
"Ithaca, New York.

"Dear Dr. Pearson:

"I have your letter of March 17 and shall be pleased to meet you on your visit to Washington.

"I would not care to undertake to outline a program for your 'International Conference of Agricultural Economists' without knowing its more of ~~the~~ origin and objects. No doubt you have already extended invitations to well-known economists in Canada and Europe, especially the small English speaking group associated with the League of Nations and various European Universities. It would undoubtedly add greatly to the gayety of the occasion if you could secure the attendance of two or three English-speaking economists from the U.S.S.R. Names and addresses to whom invitations might be sent probably could be obtained from the Sovietic group in New York City, 'Amtorg,' I believe.

"I might suggest that invitations be sent to Mr. W.J. Lamont, Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and Dr. J.E. Holloway, Statistician, Pretoria, South Africa; Prof. Griffith Taylor, University of Sydney, Australia; Sr. Alexandro Bunge, Economiste, Buenos Aires; and to Prof. Cecil Y. Shepard, College of Tropical Agriculture, Port of Spain, Trinidad. Nearly all countries have a greater or less number of intelligent, traveled, men of affairs who are students of economics, but who do not call themselves and are known as professional economists, and for that reason it is not easy to suggest names, especially of those who can speak English. This is especially true of the Latin American countries and the Orient.

As for the program, I might suggest that all countries without exception are interested in acquiring wealth and an improved standard of living, and to this end are confronted by all sorts of problems,

such as development and exploitation of natural resources, development of industries, transportation, trade, commerce, finances, exchange, unemployment, over or under population, emmigration and immigration, colonization, extreme subdivision of land, large holdings, monopolies, burdensome taxation, legislation for promoting, restricting, or controlling these things, and the difficulties growing out of unequal distribution of land, natural resources, raw materials, population and wealth. All of these problems are affected by race, environment, history, traditions, religion, government, bureaucracy, custom, routine, psychology, and ideals of the people in each country. I ^{would} ~~should~~ say that your program should depend largely upon the economists whom you expect to attend the conference and that each might well be left free to discuss the topic in which he is most interested unless the organizers of the conference have in mind a series of similar conferences in the years to come, in which case a long-time systematic program might be outlined which could be considered by instalments at successive conferences.

"Sincerely yours,

"Leon M. Estabrook,

"Assistant to Director of Scientific Work.

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4124

Thursday, 20 March, Washington; clear and warmer. After signing mail at the office I walked across to the Pan American Union and had an interview with Dr. Gilz Borges regarding the translation and duplicating or printing of the technical papers as fast as they were submitted. The resolution providing funds for the conference had not yet been passed and until it did no funds would be available. The translation of technical papers into two different languages, Spanish and Portuguese, is slow work and we could not wait indefinitely on Congress. Sr. Borges agreed to utilize the translators of the Pan American Union and employ others and pay for the work out of Union funds and be reimbursed therefor out of the special appropriation when it became available.

In the afternoon had a call from a correspondent of the Associated Press and Havas offering his services in connection with publicity for the conference.

Thelma and the baby were at the house when I returned. She said her husband had telephoned from Miami saying he and Otis would leave for Washington in about ten days. I read the Ford Manual that came with the car. Several of the old ladies of the neighborhood called on wife.

Friday, 21 March, Washington; clear and pleasant. I tried to get the car out but the starter would not work. A mechanic from a nearby service station said the battery was dead and had to be taken out for recharging.

At the office Mr. Gage called and invited wife and I to dine with them in the evening and it was so arranged after telephoning wife.

Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Ex-Secretary Jardine, who asked many questions about Egypt and Cairo. I did not know then that he was expecting to be sent to Egypt as American Ambassador.

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4125

He expressed the opinion that the United States was making a serious mistake in lending so much money to European countries for use in financing manufacturing enterprises in direct competition with ours. He said the French had made a wonderful recovery and that her per capita wealth was greater than ours, which was the reason why her people were so cocky.

In the afternoon a farewell reception was given by the Bureau to Mr. Tolley who was soon to leave to become the economist of the Gianini Foundation in California. His office was beautifully decorated with flowers from the department greenhouses.

Mr. Gage called for me at 4.30 p.m., picked up Mrs. Gage at 15th St and F Streets, and stopped at our house for wife. Then he drove out to his place in Falls Church, Virginia. They had a beautiful home with large grounds. After a nice supper we sat around an open fire and talked. They brought us back about 10 p.m., after a very pleasant evening.

Saturday, 22 March, Washington; clear and cold. I took the car over to the garage to have the extra well and wheel and wind-shield put in. The manager said it could not be done because the Ford Company had sent out the new models without providing spare parts. My patience was exhausted and I said it simply had to be done and if not he could either take the car back or I would bring suit. He called up the main office in Washington, explained the situation, and they promised to send up the new parts immediately. When I called for the car late in the afternoon it was complete in every particular. It seemed to me that this had been an exhibition of very poor business management because instead of having a satisfied customer they had one who was thoroughly disgusted.

Had a letter from Mr. Simon J. Lubin giving full details

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4126

about the proposed Pan American Reciprocal Trade Conference. I called on Mr. Reese, Chief Clerk of the Department, who showed me the plans for the new administrative building. A small inside room on the third floor had been reserved for me. It was undesirable for several reasons, but Mr. Reese said it was the best that could be done because all the desirable rooms had been definitely assigned before my new appointment.

At the Cosmos Club had a talk with Mr. Jesse Pope who was, as always, very pessimistic about the outlook for the country. ^{was} kept busy most of the afternoon answering telephone inquiries, including one from the Press Service of the department offering to issue press statements regarding the conference.

~~(Lubin, 24 March, Washington, xsalmon folder).~~ omit

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4127

Sunday, 23 March, Washington; clear and cold. After reading the morning papers I got out the car and drove around the Speedway, up by the Capitol, and out Pennsylvania Avenue to the District line, and back by way of the Union Station.

Shortly after noon wife and I went by street car out to Woodly Park ~~Tex~~ Towers, a large new apartment house near the Zoo bridge, and had luncheon with Mr. and Mrs. Hobson, Mr. Nielson, who was to go as agricultural attache to Marseilles, and Mr. and Mrs. Roth. The apartment was a nice one on the second floor overlooking the Zoological Park. After luncheon ~~and listening to the constant din of a radio~~, we all walked across to the Zoo and saw the young gorilla and the polar bears. On emerging from the Zoo wife and I parted from our friends and returned by street car. At the house we found George, the handyman, had let himself in and was sitting in an easy chair by the fire and enjoying himself.

(Sister Nellie, ~~24~~ [✓] 23 March, Washington, brown elder)

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4128

Monday, 24 March, Washington; fair and warmer. Drafted a long letter to Mr. Lubin. At noon I walked down the street with Dr. Bonney Youngblood and asked him what he was doing. He said he was specializing on the economics of cotton for the Extension Service.

In the afternoon there was a meeting of bureau chiefs in Dr. Woods' office to consider the program for the Inter American Conference on Agriculture, about thirty being present. The discussion was long drawn out and rather inconclusive beyond the main fact that the program as I presented it was approved. Except for Dr. Woods, myself, and two or three others, the rest seemed to be very apprehensive that the conference would get tangled up in questions of a controversial nature and they were exceedingly cautious. I got the impression that most of them were not at all prepared to defend their quarantine and other regulatory measures and were very unwilling to have those measures submitted to adverse criticism. I did not hesitate to express the opinion that the discussion of many controversial questions in an international gathering by delegates who had grievances to air was inevitable and that the best policy was to meet them boldly, avoiding all appearance of concealment, evasion, or hesitation, and discuss such questions frankly and fairly on their merits, and if there was anything that would not bear free discussion it should be promptly amended, modified, or abandoned.

Had a letter from Mr. Fleming of the Florida Experiment Station saying that he had been authorized to advise me that my travel expenses to Gainesville and return would be paid from State funds and expressing the hope that I could come the first week in April.

After reaching the house a representative of a piano concern called and agreed to put our piano in good condition for \$25. He said it was over forty years old and a very good instrument.

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4129

Tuesday, 25 March, Washington; raining and warm. The insurance on the car that I had authorized the week previous not having come I stepped into an office down town and a policy was written while I waited. The information clerk of the Automobile Association said there would probably be some delay in getting my driver's permit because the Traffic Bureau was sometimes six weeks or more in arrears. This seemed almost as bad as anything I had heard of official inefficiency in South America.

At the office I dictated the minutes of the meeting the day before, a memorandum to Dr. Woods regarding the furniture and supplies that would be required for the office room in the administrative building as soon as it was ready for occupancy, and some letters.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon I heard some representatives of the Louisiana sugar industry present their arguments in favor of a tariff in a most unconvincing manner. It seemed to me they had a very poor case. On the other hand there was an excellent talk by a young man of Jewish extraction from the Tariff Board who said that the Board was a nonpartisan fact-finding body and that as a matter of fact the industries without tariff protection had prospered quite as well if not better than those with it. Mr. Warner, agronomist for the Fertilizer Association, related an anecdote. He said a neighbor of his had a little boy and a female dog. The little boy noticed that the dog was growing larger and leaner and asked his father the reason. The father explained that the dog was about to become a mother and would soon have puppies. This satisfied the boy's curiosity. Shortly afterwards the little boy saw a policeman who carried a large bay window in front of him. He marched up to the policeman and said, "I know what is the matter with you." The policeman looked down at the little fellow and said, "Well, what do

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4130

you think is the matter with me." The little boy responded:

"You are going to have some puppies, and I wish you would let me have one because I have always wanted a police dog."

At the house two little boys came for a stray dog my ~~w~~ife ~~ha~~ had taken in and advertised. Also a contractor and his assistant called to inspect the house and figure on specifications and cost of installing a hot water heating plant. For years I had refused to consider the installation of such a plant partly because of the expense and partly because I had expected to sell the house, but ~~no~~^w that there seemed to be no prospect of a sale I was determined never again to spend another winter like the last one in it.

Wednesday, 26 March, Washington; cloudy and cold, strong wind, and flurries of snow. At the office Dr. Woods called up and said he noticed there was nothing in our program about plant pathology. I called his attention also to the fact that there was nothing provided for on plant and animal genetics, or dairying, or poultry, or fertilizers, or soil erosion, and many other fundamental factors of agriculture; that I had noted these omissions but was simply following the program as originally planned and had not felt at liberty to expand it to a well rounded form. He asked me to include these subjects ~~and~~ and to arrange for the necessary technical papers on them. I at once arranged by telephone for these papers which later I confirmed by ~~teleph~~ letters.

At the house I had a telephone call from Dr. Gates of Johns Hopkins who was very indignant because he was not notified to attend the departmental meeting of bureau chiefs on Monday. I had difficulty in pacifying him with the statement that the meeting was not a public one and was limited strictly to technicians within the department, that no representative of other departments of the government, nor any one not in the government service, was

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4131

invited, and if that was not satisfactory please discuss the matter with Dr. Woods. Wife and I attended a meeting of the Grange which to me was very tiresome. The only bright spot was an anecdote related by Mr. Pirtle, our dairy statistician. It concerned a fakir who was addressing a crowd of people at a country fair ^{and} who, after praising the excellence of a particular brand of soap and a perfume he was offering for sale at bargain prices, he wound up by saying, "If you don't use my soap, for God's sake use the perfume."

Thursday, 27 March, Washington; clear, cold, high wind. Spent the day ~~not~~ interviewing ~~of~~ specialists, including Mr. Guy N. Collins, and Mr. McCall, regarding participation in the conference program. Mr. Haskell called and expressed the opinion that the agenda as drawn might impress the Latin American delegates as being designed to allow the specialists of the United States to run the whole show. I argued that this was unavoidable unless the Latin American countries would respond to our repeated invitations as generously as our own specialists were doing.

✓
(Mother, 27 March, Washington, brown folder)

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4132

Friday, 28 March, Washington; clear and cold. On the way to the office I stopped at the Pan American Union and had a two hour conference with Sr. Gil Borges, who was extremely fertile in ideas and very enthusiastic. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Ex-Secretary Jardine and we talked about our school days under primitive conditions/ and changes in farm life that had taken place since. At the office I dictated some letters and read aloud awhile from a Spanish newspaper to limber up my tongue. On the way home I purchased transportation to Gainesville, Florida, and return over the Atlantic Coast Line.

At the house wife had prepared a baked shad dinner and Miss Jenkins shared it with us. After supper I enjoyed some radio music and did some reading.

Saturday, 29 March, Washington; fair and cold. Spent the day at the office reading papers submitted from Santo Domingo and Guatemala, answering telephone calls, and trying to think up a program for my Florida trip. Looked up the biography of Dr. Tigert, President of the Florida University, and found that he was the first Rhodes Scholar from Tennessee, was U.S. Commissioner of Education for eight years, and had written a book on rural life.

On the way home I stopped at the Pennock Company's wholesale flower store and saw Mr. Bauer, the manager, who told me that enormous quantities of narcissus bulbs had been planted in North Carolina, following the U.S. quarantine.

At the house wife said that when George fixed the fire in the morning a great volume of smoke came out through the basement, some one on the street turned in a fire alarm, and the fire company around the corner on K Street responded and carried the hose through the front window and if George had not been there to prevent them they would have flooded the basement, which was wholly unnecessary. I took wife in the new sedan, the first time she had consented

(1930, March, Washington)

E--4133

to ride in it, over to 2d Street to buy a cake from an old negro woman who used to work for Miss Belle Saunders. After we succeeded in finding the place she visited with the old colored woman for more than half an hour while I sat in the car outside and smoked and wondered why she could not buy a better cake at the store across from our house without all this bother. She finally came out with an armfull of cakes and bread rolls.

Sunday, 30 March, Washington; warmer and threatening rain. After reading the papers I drove out to Winworth and had luncheon with mother, Sister Nellie, and Eunice, and then went on to Sunny Hill. I inspected the Cricket House and saw that the cistern was empty. Later I asked sister to have it cleaned out and try to have the leaks stopped with a coat of paraffin. Inspected the narcissus patch. The trumpet varieties were blossoming on very short stems.

On reaching home I found that Charles Worthy and Miss Jenkins were to have supper with us. He left at 9 p.m. after I announced that I had some work to do.

Monday, 31 March, Washington; clear and cool. Did not sleep well because of wife's refusal to discuss Otis the evening before. The mere mention of his name by me made her angry and ~~he~~ she would close her lips, toss her head, and walk into another room. This time I followed her and stood in the door so she could not pass me and said I wanted her to understand that I was greatly displeased with his conduct, including his failure to write on his Florida trip, and that the only way he could ever regain my confidence would be to either study or go to work, and above all become more frank and courteous in his dealings with us; that absolutely I could not and would not tolerate a sullen young and very idle brute in my house. There was no response, but her face expressed grim defiance.

(1930, M April, Washington)

E--4134

I saw Dr. Woods to ask if he had any suggestions to make regarding the Pan American cooperation the Florida University wished to promote, but he had none. Answered a number of telephone calls. Walked home at noon for luncheon, to pack up, and to do some writing. Wife brought a letter addressed to me by Otis on the 7th of March in which he proposed to enlist in the Navy but could not do so without my written consent. She had opened it and decided not to show it to me because she thought I would consent and she would lose Otis. She said she had written to her old friend Mrs. Crozier, asking her to stop Otis from enlisting. I had no objection whatever to wife opening my letters, but I felt greatly chagrined that she had so little confidence in me as to conceal the letter from me, or even to discuss Otis's situation with me. Of all things I disliked concealment and secrecy between members of the same family, and I said so. Then wife spoke of another matter for the first time. She said that when Mr. Tom Jenkins died his sister, Miss Jenkins, was in great trouble and needed money, and wife had loaned her \$150. She repaid part of it the following month, and then she had said that while we were in Argentina the roof leaked and her brother had paid for having it repaired at a cost of \$89, and this amount wife had deducted from the loan. I made no comment other than that I could not understand why these things should be kept secret from me.

Thelma telephoned that the baby had a fever and wanted wife to go with her to a child specialist. We separated and I left for the Union Station in time for the train that left at 3.05 p.m.

As we approached Richmond in the late afternoon I could see that the shrubbery was beginning to leaf out. The Pullman coach was insufferably hot and it was only after repeated requests that the negro porter consented to turn off the heat and open the ventilators.

(1930, April, to Florida)

E--4135

Tuesday, 1 April, to Gainesville; clear and pleasant. Woke up in Georgia and could see that the trees generally were beginning to leaf out. Reached Jacksonville at 9 a.m. and had to change cars for a train leaving at 10.25 a.m. After checking my baggage I walked up the street for a short distance. This section of the city was covered with warehouses and cheap boarding houses and was very unattractive. The railway station was new and pretentious. I was struck with the industrial development around the larger cities, such as Richmond, Petersburg, and Jacksonville. Probably the same was true of Charleston, Atlanta, Savannah, and Mobile. On leaving Jacksonville we passed through a flat sandy pine woods section with but little agriculture, although within an hour we began to see strawberry patches and pecan groves. We passed through Danville, Dukes, Worthington Springs, Haynesworth, Burnett's Lake, and reached Gainesville at 1.10 p.m.

Mr. Fleming was at the station to meet me and take me in his car to the White House Hotel where I was given a comfortable room and a private bath that had been reserved for me. Had a nice luncheon of fried chicken and rice. I remembered that I had stopped at this hotel many years before when I was to give a talk on crop estimating at the University.

Shortly before 3 o'clock Mr. Flemming came for me and together we went to the University, a group of new modern buildings in a large park on the outskirts of the city. I was taken to one of the rooms and introduced to several instructors in economics and a class of graduate students. I was asked to talk on any subject I choose. I told them about the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome and the world agricultural census project, and some of the countries I had visited. They asked many questions and when it was over I found that I had been on my feet for over two hours and was tired.

(1930, April, Gainesville)

E--4136

Mr. Fleming took me back to the hotel at 5.30 p.m. He returned at 6 p.m. for me, picked up two professors at the University Club, and took us to the Primrose restaurant, where we had a nice beefsteak dinner with tasty little hot biscuits. After supper we walked to the public square and back to the University Club where I met and was introduced to about twenty professors. At Mr. Fleming's request I gave a talk on South American countries, followed by questions and answers that kept me on my feet until after 11 p.m.

On the way back to the hotel Mr. Fleming said the great boom in Florida had hurt the state badly, the countries had bonded themselves heavily and were now taxing themselves to pay off their debts, and that the previous year more than five million acres were forfeited for nonpayment of taxes.

Wednesday, 2 April, Gainesville; clear and warm. Shortly after 9 o'clock Mr. Fleming took me out to the Office of Experiment Stations, where I met Dr. J. E. Turlington, professor of agricultural economics; Dr. C. F. Noble, head of the department of economic research; and Dr. H. G. Hamilton, professor of marketing. At their request I named a number of organized units with which the University might cooperate in promoting Inter American agriculture, such as the Pan American Union, the different Pan American congresses that are held from time to time, the American Scientific Congress, the subcommittee of the Board of Governors of the Pan American Union, the Inter American High Commission, the national committees that had been set up especially for cooperation with the Pan American Union in the Latin American countries, the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council and its committee on agriculture, the Tropical Plant Research Foundation, and the Inter American Geographical Institute, as well as the coming Inter

(1930, April, Gainesville) E--4137

American Conference on Agriculture at Washington, and the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Conference at Sacramento, the University at Panama, the course in tropical agriculture at the University of Porto Rico in cooperation with Cornell University, the Experimental Plant Introduction Garden in the Canal Zone, the experimental plant introduction garden at Taylor in Nicaragua, the College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad, and the departments of agriculture and universities of Mexico and Central and South American countries. Many questions were asked which I tried to answer.

At 11 a.m. a committee named by the president of the University came in headed by Dean Matherly. The Dean said that Dr. Tigert ~~waxx~~ thought that the University of Florida was strategically situated to promote cooperation with the Latin American countries and had suggested a series of Inter American Institutes, one each year, to be held in January or February at Gainesville, and that the University of Florida might cooperate with the Latin American universities in research work and in promoting mutual understanding, trade, commerce, and culture. He asked if I had anything to suggest. I replied that my first thought^t in connection with this proposal, which was new to me, was the probable duplication of the functions of the Pan American Union. He rejoined that Dr. Rowe had already been taken into their confidence and had promised cooperation. In that event ~~it~~ I said it seemed to me that both I and the members of his committee would be in much better position to make definite suggestions of value after the Inter American Conference had met at Washington and formulated resolutions for promoting exactly what the president of the University and his committee had in mind, and that in the meantime I saw no reason why the University should not proceed to announce its program for annual meetings of selected representatives of the various countries interested.

(1930, April, Gainesville)

E--4138

This conference lasted about an hour. Dr. Noble took us to the Primrose Restaurant and we had luncheon with the local Kiwanis Club, which had a good program. I was introduced as one of the guests. After luncheon I was taken out to the university and introduced to President Tigert with whom I had a very satisfactory interview. Next I was taken to the Experiment Station building and met with a committee that kept me until after 4 p.m. We were back at the hotel at 4.30 p.m. and I began to jot down some notes for a radio address on "Some Phases of International Cooperation" which Mr. Fleming and others had asked me to give. At 5.30 I was taken to the radio station where I gave a fifteen minute talk on the subject mentioned. Returning to the hotel I had a chance to look at the local paper and get supper.

At 8.30 p.m. Mr. Fleming called for me and took me to his home where I met his wife and two children. They asked questions until after 11 p.m. It was midnight when I reached my room.

Thursday, 3 April, Gainesville; clear and pleasant. At 8.30 a.m. Mr. Fleming called and took me to the University where I met a group, including Mr. Stokes, the agronomist, and several of his assistants.. Then we drove out to the Experiment Station farm a mile or more from the city and inspected various experimental plots. We returned to the University at 10 a.m. and went to the auditorium, a beautiful structure with stained woodwork inside. We had just entered when President Tigert and Mr. John Barrett, former Director of the Pan American Union, came in. Mr. Barrett was looking more florid and expansive from high living than when I last saw him in Washington. Dr. Tigert sent for me to join them on the stage, which I did. The pipe organ was played until the hall filled up with professors and students. Dr. Tigert introduced Mr. Barrett as a professor, diplomat, Director of the Pan American Union, and international lawyer. Mr.

(1930, April, Gainesville)

E--4139

Barrett gave an excellent address, somewhat florid, in which he pointed out the desirability of union and mutual understanding between all the American republics and the possibilities of exchange of culture as well as commodities. *P* After this meeting I accompanied Dr. Noble to his office and listened for an hour while he explained the projects of his department. *P* Then we were driven across the city to the residence of Dr. Tigert. It was constructed in New England colonial style and was well and tastefully furnished. Dr. Tigert and Mr. Barrett were already there and we were soon joined by various members of the university faculty. A nice luncheon was served in the dining room and then we adjourned to a glass inclosed veranda to smoke and to discuss the possibilities of organizing cooperation between the University of Florida and the Latin American countries along the lines already suggested. When called upon for an expression of opinion I said that I would much prefer to postpone definite recommendations until after the Inter American Conference on Agriculture, but it seemed to me that there were opportunities for the exchange of professorships and scholarships, cooperation in scientific research with special reference to tropical agriculture, and in the promotion of better cultural and commercial relations by encouraging the study of Spanish and the reading of Spanish literature in the United States. Dr. Tigert said he had proposed the establishment of an advisory board and that Dr. Rowe had recommended me for membership on that board in the most complimentary terms, and he wanted to know if I would consent to serve on the board. I said I would be quite willing if there was no objection by my official superiors. The party separated at 3 p.m.

Mr. Fleming drove me to the railway station where I made a Pullman reservation from Jacksonville for the following night. Then we went to the hotel where I settled my bill and got my suit-

(1930, Gainesville, April)

E--4140

case and briefcase. He drove by his residence for his suitcase. Then we drove for several hours through the open pine woods country with occasional trucking fields and orange orchards, past several towns, lime quarries, large springs, small lakes, and into Tampa at 7 p.m. We got good rooms at the Hillsboro Hotel, and then walked a few squares to the bridge across the Hillsboro River on the other side of which was a park and the Flagler Hotel. Returning, we had supper at a restaurant, walked through some well lighted streets and saw a picture show. It was 11 p.m. when we returned to our rooms.

Friday, 3 4 April, Florida; cloudy, showers, and warm. We both brought our baggage down and met in the hotel lobby at 7 a.m. After a nice breakfast we left Tampa and continued our journey ~~across~~ across the State, passing the Springs of Ponce de Leon, the Bok tower, and other interesting points, had luncheon at Orlando, inspected a grapefruit packing plant, saw potato, ~~celery~~ celery, and fern fields, orange, lemon, and grapefruit orchards, many pretty towns, parks, lakes, and reached Polatka at 4.40 p.m., where I bid farewell to Mr. Fleming and took the train for Jacksonville. While waiting at the station I met Mr. McKay of the Federal Farm Board. We reached Jacksonville about half an hour late and then had to walk the length of sixteen coaches to reach my Pullman. After supper and a smoke I retired early.

Saturday, 5 April, Washington; clear and cool. I woke up ^a ~~near~~ the Virginia line and reached Richmond at 10.50 a.m. Saw several patches of narcissi in bloom. After reading the Richmond papers I talked with an elderly robust man in the smoking compartment. He said he was a captain and head of a fleet of tug ~~boats~~ boats in New York harbor; that New York harbor is a difficult place to navigate in; that he had recently retired in favor of his son;

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4141

that he had been going down to Florida every winter for more than twenty years; that a tug boat costs about \$50,000 and requires five or six men to operate; that before prohibition went into effect trouble was always had in getting the men together on Monday morning, but they were more regular since, although some of them still persisted in going on periodical sprees; and he expressed the opinion that if the newspapers would stop talking about prohibition the dry law could be enforced about as well as any other law.

As the train passed across the Potomac bridge I could see that the Japanese cherries along the Speedway were in blossom and the roads were lined with automobiles of people who came to see them.

We reached the Union Station at 12.55 p.m. and I had luncheon in the station restaurant. ~~At the house I found that Otis and Mr. Price had returned on Tuesday. Otis was very quiet and disappeared a moment after I came in.~~

I brushed up and took a taxi to the office where I found an accumulation of mail, including a letter from Mr. Lubin asking me to come out to Sacramento to help organize the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Conference, offering to pay my travel expenses by airplane. I saw Dr. Woods and reported the results of my trip. After sorting my mail I walked home. Had a nice supper with wife and then started to draft a report of my trip.

Sunday, 6 April, Washington; cloudy, light rain, and warm. After reading the papers I got out the car and drove to Winworth. Thousands of tourists in automobiles, mostly from Pennsylvania, were on the road headed for Washington and the cherry blossoms. Sister said she had a shipment of narcissi blossoms ready for the next day. We had a nice dinner. Eunice telephoned to Mr. Decker in Frederick to ascertain whether his son, James, wished to ride in

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4142

with me. I picked him up in front of the opera house. We drove all the way to Washington in a heavy rain and meeting a steady procession of returning automobiles.

On reaching the house at 4.30 p.m. I found wife taking a nap, Otis and Walker playing a card game in the sitting room, and George asleep in a rocking chair in the dining room, so I retired to my den in the basement.

Monday, 7 April, Washington; bright and warm. During the forenoon a squall of wind and rain ~~blow~~ blew over the city, followed by a decided drop in temperature. I walked home at noon for an overcoat. Dictated a report on the Florida trip and some letters, and made up my expense account.

At the supper table I tried to get Otis to talk about his stay in Florida but he was sullen and noncommunicative and I lost patience with him. I asked him if he had kept a memorandum of the amounts he owed Mr. Price and he simply grinned and grunted "No." *that he should not forget the fifty dollars he owed me for his unnecessary pleasure trip, but in addition*
I told him [^] if he had a spark of manhood in him he would try to find work and earn enough to repay Mr. Price without delay as a matter of honor because Mr. Price was not under the slightest obligation to him and could not afford to pay any of his expenses. I told him also that after his much needed vacation I was sure that he was thoroughly rested from his arduous duties and I would expect him to jump into his correspondence school course and try to make up for lost time.

~~(Memo. for Dr. Woods, Fla. trip., 7 April)~~ omit

with me. I picked him up in front of the opera house. We drove all the way to Washington in a heavy rain and meeting a steady procession of returning automobiles.

On reaching the house at 4.30 p.m. I found wife waiting a day. Otto and Walter playing a card game in the sitting room, and George asleep in a rocking chair in the dining room, so I retired to my room in the basement.

Monday, 7 April, Washington; bright and warm. During the forenoon a squall of wind and rain blew over the city, followed by a decided drop in temperature. I walked home at noon for an overcoat. Dictated a report on the Florida trip and some letters, and made up my expense account.

At the supper table I tried to get Otto to talk about his stay in Florida but he was silent and noncommunicative and I lost patience with him. I asked him if he had kept a memorandum of the remarks he owed Mr. Price and he simply replied and printed "No." I told him it was his duty to do so, but he would try to find work and earn enough to repay Mr. Price without delay as a matter of honor because Mr. Price was not under the slightest obligation to him and could not afford to pay any of his expenses. I told him also that after his much needed vacation I was sure that he was thoroughly rested from his arduous duties and I would expect him to jump into his correspondence school course and try to make up for lost time.

~~Memorandum for Mr. Woods, 7 April, 1945~~

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4143

Tuesday, 8 April, Washington; cloudy and cold. At the office had a visit from Mr. Stanley D. Morse, consulting agricultural engineer, of the Morse Agricultural Service, who said that he had had experience in the Central American countries, Colombia, Venezuela, Haiti, and British Guiana, and was looking for a connection. Dictated some letters and began listing names of leaders for roundtable discussions of particular commodities, such as sugar, coffee, rubber, and the like. Obtained from Mrs. Owen a list of men prominent in tropical agriculture which she had compiled from correspondence in the Tropical Research Foundation office. She said she was quoting my Florida report, a copy of which I had sent her, in a report she was making to the trustees of the Foundation. Dictated a long letter to Mr. Lubin regarding the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Conference.

After supper a contractor came and did some more figuring on the cost of wiring the house for electricity. Then the Johnstons came in and remained late.

Wednesday, 9 April, Washington; clear and cold. At the office Dr. Woods called up to say that the Senate had passed the resolution authorizing the conference, and he asked me to get in touch with Mr. Southgate, chief of the Division of Conferences and Protocol in the State Department, and ascertain what was wanted in the way of a budget statement. Mr. Southgate was out when I called, but his secretary said that the Budget Commission required a statement of prospective expenses in great detail, showing how many persons were to be employed, the number of days, rate of compensation per day, number, kind, and quantity of each sort of office equipment and supplies and the cost per unit, and so on. She said the preliminary estimate would not be absolutely binding but could be changed later if necessary, and that the Senate resolution did not carry any

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4144

funds, which would have to be provided for in a separate estimate to be included in a deficiency bill that probably would not be passed until near the close of the session.

Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Dr. Woods. While there Prof. Gates came over and said that in view of the failure to get contributions from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other sources and he had withdrawn his own contribution ~~so~~ the contemplated trip of Mr. Haskell to South America would have to be abandoned.

I spent the afternoon trying to get a line on the cost of interpreters, reporters, and other necessary employees for the conference from some of the various commissions in Washington, and the cost of duplicating machines, rental of typewriters, and supplies. I called up addresses given in the telephone directory and by a singular coincidence ^{was answered} only by female voices, not one of whom could give me the information I sought. This was irritating and unsatisfactory and I damned the day when women were employed in business offices.

On telling my wife about this experience in the evening she related an anecdote. A woman entered a Jew store where the clerk had been told never to let a customer escape and asked for toilet paper. The clerk said they had no toilet paper but did have sand paper which he could recommend as being just as cheap and much better. ~~Otis took supper with Thelma and Mr. Price and was away all the evening~~

Thursdy, 10 April, Washington; clear and cool. At the office I received several representatives of duplicating machine companies and asked each to prepare a memorandum showing the capacity of their machines, purchase price, rental price, and cost of repairs and of an expert operator. Dictated a budget statement for the State Department, also a list of suggestions for the wording of the invita-

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4145

tions that were to be sent to the participating governments, it being desired to so word these invitations as to exclude politicians from being appointed as delegates instead of technically trained men in agriculture. One embarrassing feature of all this was that definite engagements and purchases could not be made nor invitations sent out until after Congress had appropriated the necessary funds. All we could do was to be fully prepared to act quickly as soon as the funds were available.

Friday, 11 April, Washington; cloudy and almost hot. Stopped at the State Department to leave^v the budget statement and the suggested phraseology of the invitations. At the office dictated letters to members of the department staff whom we wished to serve as leaders in the roundtable discussions at the conference.

In the afternoon Mr. ~~Mc~~^{son}Neil_A came in. He expected to leave in a few days for his post at Marseilles. He asked many questions. I cautioned him to remember one thing: ~~that~~ that if he remained away from Washington too long he might find himself upon his return without a position, all places might be filled and the ranks closed, and he might have difficulty in remaining in the service. Then a young man from the statistical division called to consult me regarding a memorandum he had prepared relating to the systems of crop reporting in different countries. He was rather slovenly in appearance but said he had won a Harvard scholarship and ~~said he~~ expected to do postgraduate work in economics.

Mr. and Mrs. Bauer, manager of the Pennock Wholesale Florist Company in Washington, had invited our family to spend the evening with them. ~~At the supper table Otis sat in gloomy silens and before we were half through he rose abruptly and without a word left the house.~~ Mr. Price took us and Thelma in his car to the Bauer residence on Rhode Island Avenue where we spent a very pleasant

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4146

evening and had some excellent home-made wine.

Saturday, 12 April, Washington; clear and hot. There was a marked change in the appearance of the trees in the parks during the last twenty-four hours because of the sudden rise in temperature. Spent the office day in dictating letters and memoranda. Quit a little early so I could wash the mud off the car. Wife and I had supper at a restaurant, and went window shopping on Connecticut Avenue. I looked at some geographical globes and was surprised to find them priced from \$18 to \$50. I could not see why globes could not be made equally good for five dollars or less. Why should a globe cost more than a good map, or at least a good geography or atlas?

Sunday, 13 April, Washington; fair and atmosphere hazy from forest fires. Charles Worthy took breakfast with us, after which I drove him out to Winworth. Buds beginning to break. At Sunny Hill the peonies were up enough to see the rows. The narcissi were in full bloom and the packing room was full of blossoms for shipment the following day. I picked an armfull to bring home with me. Sister Nellie had prepared her usual chicken dinner. We left at 3 p.m. and returned by way of Buckeystown and Dickerson, a route that was new to me. As far as Rockville there were but few cars on the road, but from Rockville to Washington it was congested.

Thelma and her husband took supper with us.

Monday, 14 April, Washington; fair and warm. Spent the office day redrafting the daily program for the conference. One of my visitors was Mr. Schweinfurth^{hart}, a newspaper correspondent, who said he had discussed with Dr. Gil Borges the necessity of having a publicity agent for the conference and that he would be willing to begin work at once and his pay could be adjusted after the appropriation was available. Inasmuch as the press service of the Department of Agriculture had volunteered to do this kind of work for nothing his

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4147

proposal did not appeal to me at the time. Another visitor was Dr. John L. Johnston who talked for more than an hour. He had been employed in the Bureau of Plant Industry for many years and then went as an expert with the United Fruit Company.

Tuesday, 15 April, Washington; cloudy and threatening rain. Trees in the parks showing the first shimmer of green. Finished revised draft of daily program for conference. This was in great detail and in it I tried to allocate every minute of time during two weeks to the various topics, so many minutes for each speaker, with title of paper to be submitted, name and title of speaker, names and titles of those to be called upon for discussion, time for meals, receptions, and sightseeing. Dr. Woods asked me to see Dr. Marlatt and arrange for a round table discussion of insect pests.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon we had a group of visiting agricultural extension leaders who told what was being done in different states to organize Four H clubs. The leader from Alabama said the Four H clubs got rid of "Heflin, Hoover, ~~and~~ Hell, and Hard Times."

In the afternoon Dr. Johnston and I called by appointment on Dr. Marlatt and found him rather pessimistic regarding the conference, which I suspect was because of his apprehension that the question of plant and animal quarantines would be up for discussion. However, he agreed that his bureau would cooperate.

On the way home I stopped at the plumbing and steamfitting firm of Sommerville on 13th Street to get the name of a dependable contractor for installing a heating plant in my house. There I was told of innumerable difficulties that might develop if I gave the contract to an incompetent agent.

Wednesday, 16 April, Washington; raining and cold. Assistant Secretary Dunlap picked me up on the way to the office and we talked

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4148

about the Grange program. Stopped at the Disbursing Office to straighten out the hitch that had occurred in cashing my last salary check. Many years previously I had signed the prescribed papers to authorize the Disbursing Office to send my checks directly to my bank for deposit to my credit. Just recently some clerk in the Treasury Department had questioned the legality for such a proceeding and failed to find the authorization I had signed. The time lost by myself and other officials in straightening this matter out probably cost the government as much as that clerk's salary for a month, and the whole matter was settled by my signing another authorization in triplicate, the gist of the affidavit being to the effect that I was I.

At the bank where I had to go to deposit one copy of the paper I purchased a Farm Land Bank bond for \$1,000. We had Thelma, Mr. Price, and Charles Worthy, to supper with us. After supper they looked at some clothing left by Mr. Tom Jenkins that his sister was trying to sell, but the prices she asked were out of all reason.

For some weeks I had been working on biographical notes in the evening. Had got as far as my experience as a country school teacher.

Thursday, 17 April, Washington; raining and cold. Spent most of the day revising the daily program of the conference. Had interviews with agents of duplicating devices. Their prices seemed high. At the house we had an enjoyable evening with Mrs. Smith, Miss Joyce, and Miss Ellerbrock, all from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Charles Worthy entertained us with some lively piano music and wife served refreshments in the dining room.

Friday, 18 April, Washington; clear and warmer. Working on program. After luncheon at the Cosmos Club I stopped in the reading room to read a magazine article on "Pan Pacific Organization."

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4149

Mr. Marriott called at the office to see about reporting the proceedings of the conference. He wanted thirty-five cents per page and a guaranty of seventy dollars a day.

Saturday, 19 April, Washington; clear and cool. At 10.30 a.m. Dr. Woods took me in his car across to the Pan American Union where we had a conference with Dr. Rowe, the director, Dr. Gil Borges, the assistant director, and Dr. Manger, financial officer, and one other, to consider the budget and the daily program I had prepared. The conference lasted for two hours, most of the talk being about collateral matters. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club and spent the afternoon writing up the minutes of the meeting in the morning.

In the evening began reading Will Durant's "Outline of Philosophy," which to me was intensely interesting as a summary of the different ideas that have prevailed at different times.

Sunday, 20 April, Washington; Easter; a clear beautiful day. Charles Worthy had breakfast with us and we drove out to Winworth. Sister Nellie had a tale of woe to relate regarding the three days of rain that interfered with the picking and shipping of narcissus blossoms. However, she had managed to salvage and ship more than four thousand bunches. Trees beginning to leaf out. The narcissus were at their best. Forsythias were passing. Peonies were four to ten inches high. Cherries beginning to blossom. The water supply at Sunny Hill was low. The tanks had been emptied in the fall to prevent freezing and the rainfall was below normal and there was little water in them. It was a lovely bright day of sunshine, lawns and wheat fields were greening up, and we had a nice chicken dinner. I asked mother if she read much and she said very little because her eyes hurt. Eunice spoke up and said, "Why Grandma, you read all day and far into the night," which brought on an argument. In the afternoon Mr. Aronoff, wife, ~~daughter~~ and son, drove out from

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4150

Federal Bd. for Voc. Ed

Washington. Mr. Aronoff had been chief clerk of the Veterans Rehabilitation Bureau but had ^{resigned} ~~lost his~~ position and taken up brokerage.

~~The boy brought a rifle with him and in a few minutes was shooting about the house. Before Charlie and I left Mr. Price and Thelma drove up. Thelma asked if she might go up to Sunny Hill. Of course, I consented, but rather reluctantly because I did not want either she nor Otis at Sunny Hill unless wife and I were there at the same time, my reason being Thelma's spiteful untruthfulness and Otis's infatuation for the caretaker's wife.~~

The highway was crowded with cars on the return trip. Mr. Price and Thelma returned in time to take supper with us.

Monday, 21 April, Washington; clear and pleasant. Washington was full of tourists and more were said to be coming. At the office dictated minutes of the Saturday meeting and some letters. Mr. Sweinhart called again about employment as press agent for the conference.

Tuesday, 22 April, Washington; clear and cold. At the office formulating memoranda for the program.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Dr. O. E. Baker talked briefly on estimates of population with respect to overproduction in which he said that since 1924 there had been a rapid fall in the birth rate from 30 to 19.3 per 1,000, that immigration was restricted, and that probably by 1960 the total population will have become stationary at about 160,000,000, and that inasmuch as agricultural production increases about 2 per cent a year it will be excessive by that time if this rate of increase is maintained.

Dr. Oswald Schreiner, soil fertility specialist, called at the office with reference to a paper he had been asked to prepare. At 4 p.m. I met with Mr. Olsen and Dr. Spillman regarding the economic section of our program. This lasted until 5 p.m.

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4151

At the house wife had strawberry shortcake for supper, but it was too early in season for the berries to be good.

Wednesday, April 23, Washington; clear and cold. At the office had interviews with candidates for position of stenographer for the conference and with a representative of the American Express Company inquiring about tours for the delegates. Also saw Mr. Southgate at the State Department and Dr. Klein at the Department of Commerce to arrange for addresses on the opening day by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Commerce.

Thursday, 24 April, Washington; clear and cold. Dictated some letters and then rode to the Government Printing Office to get estimates of the cost of printing for the conference. Had several visitors and did a lot of telephoning. At 3.30 p.m. heard a lecture at the National Museum by a Mr. Miller, an entomologist of New Zealand. He was a tall slender Scotchman who spoke with a distinct English accent. He had maps and lantern slides illustrating the forest areas of New Zealand before and since white men settled the country, the reforested areas, and some of their insect pests, the principal one being the blow fly that lays eggs that turn into maggots in the backs of sheep, and the parasites that had been introduced to overcome the fly.

I rode home on a street car. Since my return to Washington the street cars had seemed to be badly crowded always in spite of the increasing use of automobiles.

(Memoranda to Dr. Woods, Gil Borges, and Sr. Colom, *omit*
24 April, salmon folder.)

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4152

Friday, 25 April, Washington; clear and cold, with reports of snow in the mountains. Spent an hour or more with Dr. Gil Borges discussing the form of the agenda, issuance of invitations to private institutions, and his proposals for cooperative service in plant introduction and bibliographical work. Got estimates of cost of printing from the Government Printing Office, had an interview with Mr. Galt, a shorthand reporter, and had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Dr. E. Dana Durand, the statistician, and Dr. Woods. Did some telephoning and ascertained that the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of the Bureau of Standards had agreed to make addresses at the agricultural conference. Also talked with Mr. Sheets of the Bureau of Animal Husbandry who ^{at} ~~said~~ that his bureau would provide a luncheon when the delegates were taken to inspect the livestock experiment station at Beltsville, Maryland.

Saturday, 26 April, Washington; clear and cool. Revising program. Took luncheon with Mr. Sweinhart at the Press Club of which he was a former president and one of the prime movers in getting the present modern building erected. The restaurant was on the thirteenth floor and commanded a fine view of the city. He was very friendly because I had agreed to recommend his appointment as press agent for the conference, for which he was to receive five hundred dollars, work to begin at once and carry through until the close of the conference in September. Began drafting an address on the world census for a meeting of Extension leaders.

Thelma and her husband took supper with us and before leaving asked for the loan of some money to see them through the month.

Sunday, 27 April, Washington; clear and pleasant. After breakfast I took Charles Worthy and Otis out to Winworth where we had a nice chicken dinner. Otis and I walked up to Sunny Hill and

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4153

about the place. Oats were coming up. The narcissi were passing. The peonies had been cultivated. The new Ford coupe that Charlie and Eunice had purchased was at Winworth and Otis elected to drive back with Charlie. I returned to Washington alone.

After changing my clothes I drove with wife to the house of Dr. ~~Durand~~ near Wisconsin Avenue. Had some difficulty in finding it. There we were introduced to Mrs. ~~Durand~~, who was deaf and difficult to talk to, Messrs. Surface and Olmsted, both employed in the Department of Commerce. A sister of Dr. ~~Durand~~ was also present. Later a party of young people came in from a long automobile trip. There was a long and awkward wait for supper. We sat about two tables in a darkened room dimly lighted with candles. There was a second long and tiresome wait while Dr. ~~Durand~~ compounded a salad with various things in it and several different kinds of sauces, vinegar, and olive oil on it. Unfortunately I greatly disliked darkness and had difficulty in seeing in the dim light of flickering candles. Of all things I particularly disliked salads and to me a salad with oil on it was simply nauseating, but as this salad was the principal dish, the masterpiece of the host~~s~~, I had to try to eat it. The worst part of it was that I could not say that I did not like and never ate salads without being impolite. Seeing that little else was to be expected I bravely attacked the obnoxious salad and tried to think of something else as I swallowed it and was making fine progress when, as my attention was distracted by something the sister said, my plate was heaped with a second generous helping. I balked at this and refrained from touching it because I had reached my limit. The whole service was exceedingly slow and tiresome and long drawn out and after I thought it was about over and we could adjourn to another room and have some light Mrs. ~~Durand~~ proposed that one of the young men go out for some ice cream for dessert, which had

(1930, April, Washington)

E--4154

been overlooked. The young man had to go several city blocks to find a place where he could get ice cream and another half hour passed in semidarkness and awkward silence. This bore heavily upon me because I have never liked ice cream. After this ordeal was over we adjourned to the sitting room. Dr. Durand suggested that his wife give us some music. Again the lights were turned out and we sat around in darkness. Mrs. Durand went to the piano and for more than an hour sang in a false tone, as deaf people will, a series of dismal negro spirituals. All this was torture to me. We endured it until 10 p.m. when we made our escape. It seems hard to realize that people can have such different tastes and ideas of entertainment. I very much liked Dr. Durand, but because of the number of strangers present and the conditions under which the supper and the entertainment were held I scarcely exchanged a word with him. Nothing could induce me to undergo another such ^{ordeal} ~~entertainment~~.

Monday, 28 April, Washington; cloudy and warmer. At the office I dictated an address for the Extension Service meeting. Revising outline of conference program. Had luncheon with Mr. Warburton at Child's. Left the office in time to look up one of the heating contractors whose name and address had been given me.

Tuesday, 29 April, Washington; fair and pleasant. Had several interviews and did some telephoning. Attended Farm Hands Club luncheon and met Mr. Drummond of Kansas City. Looked up another heating contractor. The Johnstons spent the evening with us.

Wednesday, 30 April, Washington; clear and pleasant. At the office met Mr. Leudtke, candidate for appointment as agricultural attache, who asked many questions about Argentina. Shortly before 11 a.m. I walked over to the offices of the Extension Service and addressed a crowded hall about the world agricultural census and the political organization and changes in Russia, Turkey, China,

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4155

and the United States. The talk lasted for an hour and was heartily applauded.

Some days before I testified in the case of Johnston vs. Johnston. Mr. Teft Johnston, who was trying to break his mother's will, had asked me to be at the courthouse at 1.30 p.m. I had a hasty luncheon and made the trip in a street car so as to be on time. I found lawyers and witnesses, including my wife, waiting for the appearance of the judge. After a time word was passed around that Judge Hitz, before whom the case was being tried, would not return from luncheon until 2.30 p.m. To put in time I walked across to the Botanical Garden and spent an hour inspecting it. The court opened at 2.30 p.m. and I was called as the first witness, and I was kept only a few minutes. I had warned Mr. Teft Johnston beforehand that my testimony could not help him and it did not. There was no cross examination.

I returned to the department in a taxi in time to meet with Assistant Secretary Dunlap and Mr. Loomis regarding the exercises at the Grange meeting in ~~annex~~ commemoration of William Saunders. Wife and I had supper at a restaurant and then went to the Unitarian Church where the Grange meeting was held. On the platform was a picture of William Saunders and a lot of flowers. The audience was small. There were addresses by Assistant Secretary Dunlap, Colonel U.S. Grant, III, in charge of the parks and public grounds of Washington, Mr. Taber, Master of the National Grange, and Mr. Mulford, landscape specialist of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

~~(Address before Extension leaders, 28 April, salmon folder)~~ omit

(1930, ~~Apr~~ May, Washington)

E--4156

Thursday, 1 May, Washington; clear and hot. Drafting letters and a report of progress on the conference program. In the corridors I met Mr. McCandless, field statistician for Mississippi, and Dr. Carlton R. Ball, formerly cerealist of the Bureau of Plant Industry. At the Cosmos Club I took a small table in the dining room next to a window overlooking Lafayette Park and the White House. The dining ~~re~~ room filled up rapidly and just as ~~my~~ luncheon was ~~served~~ an elderly gentleman of distinguished appearance was conducted to the seat opposite mine. We acknowledged each other's presence with a nod and he gave his order. Something about him seemed familiar as if I had seen him before. On the lapel of his coat was a small badge of the United States Chamber of Commerce and I could distinguish the word "Texas." Catching his eye I remarked "I see that you are from Texas; I grew up in Texas, near Paris; may I ask what part of Texas you are from." "I am Judge Dillard, of Sherman," he replied. "Well, judge," I continued, "At one time I was a court reporter and now I remember seeing you sitting as the judge in an insurance case at Paris, with Seth Sheppard, now justice of the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, representing the insurance company, and Mr. McDonald representing the defendant, who was accused of setting fire to his property for the insurance. That was thirty-eight years ago." Although much older than I he was still physically and mentally vigorous, and as I recalled the names of members of the bench and bar of Paris, ~~Texas~~ Sherman, Dallas, and Fort Worth, and some of the principal business men and firms of those times, the judge told me something of their subsequent history. We both enjoyed this fortuitous meeting after the lapse of so many years.

At the house I had a telephone message from a heating contractor whose bid was lowest saying that his bid was low because it was the dull season and if I delayed his company would have to

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4157

raise its bid but if I accepted the bid at once he would start his men the following Monday. I asked for references and he named two people for whom he had recently done some work. He said he would call the next evening. Wife was very suspicious and was opposed to prompt action.

✓
(Adriana, 1 May, brown folder)

"Washington, D.C., 1 May 1930.

"My dear Adriana:

"It seems months ago that I received your last letter. I think it crossed the one I wrote you about the same time. After I was switched from Economics to the Office of the Secretary as a sort of free lance and assigned to the Director of Scientific Work to help organize the Inter American Conference on Agriculture etc. next September, I have been exceedingly busy telephoning and running about trying to get our specialists to prepare papers, following the course of the appropriation bill, looking up interpreters, translators, shorthand reporters, cost of printing transportation for tours, and meeting all sorts of people. Then we seem to have visitors most evenings, so that I have difficulty in finding time to write or read. Interpreters here are asking about \$30 per day, translators \$10, shorthand reporters \$35 per day, plus excess transcript, etc.

"We had an unusually cold winter and late spring. Trees began to leave out about two weeks ago. The city has been full of tourists and Easter week there was over 100,000, so that the hotels were full. The streets are full of automobiles and the congestion at times is fearful. It's a great and exciting game for pedestrians to get about. In fact, life in U.S.A. is keyed up to such a pitch that it makes one's head dizzy. I have thought at times that I would like to go up into the mountains and live in a little log cabin away from telephones, newspapers and neighbors. I suppose it is a sign of age on my part.

"Early in April I was called to the University of Florida for consultation and have since been appointed on its advisory board--which makes me smile when I remember that I haven't even a college education. Before leaving Florida I was taken by the Director of Experiment Stations on a motor tour of part of the State. It has become a winter resort and touring section and there are many fine roads, pretty towns,

beautiful parks, orchards and lakes, and many fine hotels. I should like to spend a winter there.

"I have purchased a new sedan car and think I shall name it 'Miss Adriana,' as I like to have names for all my cherished belongings. I have visited Sunny Hill Farm several Sundays in succession. Easter week we had a fine display of narcissi and shipments of flowers to Washington and Baltimore brought good returns, but were reduced by three days of cold, dem, damp, moist, unpleasant rain. The country ~~wi~~ will look its best in two or three weeks and I wish you could see it.

"Family are all well and Thelma has a fine boy baby of which she is very proud. So wife and I are grandparents by adoption.

"I hope this will find you well and prospering and in good spirits. Please write me when you are in the mood and have the time. I often think of you and ^{wondered} how you fared after I left and the Casetta family was transferred. Give my best regards to the other members.

"With best wishes and kind thoughts, always,

"Sincerely yours,

"Leon M. Estabrook.

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4158

Friday, 2 May, Washington; fair and warm. Vegetation growing rapidly and very beautiful. Dictating correspondence at the office. On the way back from luncheon I stopped at the Traffic Bureau for a renewal of my driver's permit. I exhibited the receipt the Bureau had given me for the fee I had paid when I made application about six weeks previously. The clerk directed me to another office. There my application was found in a pile of others. The clerk looked at it and said the number of my previous permit was not of record. I then showed him the previous permit. He said it was obsolete and could not be renewed and that the fact that I had driven a car for the last fifteen years at intervals made no difference, I would have to apply for a new permit. The clerk in a policeman's uniform to whom I applied for a permit said I would have to bring the car down the next day and give a demonstration.

In the evening the heating contractor came, and after he agreed to install a hot water plant within ten days and guaranty a satisfactory test throughout for \$885, plus not to exceed \$18 for a new hot water tank, and to repair the brick chimney for not more than \$20, I signed the contract. Wife was rather indignant at my action and when I asked her what style and color of radiators she preferred she refused to discuss the matter. Evidently I was in for an anxious time during the necessary disturbance to be caused by the installation of the heating plant.

I had reason to suspect that a part of my wife's trouble was her solicitude for some of the neighbors, especially the Teft Johnstons in their suit to break his mother's will. They had cultivated and flattered her assiduously for months as a principal witness, and she was indignant because I would not stretch a point and testify in their favor contrary to my belief. The day before I had asked her if she would not accompany me to Sunny Hill, as I had done sev-

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4159

eral times before, but she had refused rather curtly.

When I returned to the house before supper I found her caring for Thelma's baby. Thelma had left the baby with her while she and Otis went to a picture show. No sooner had I entered the house than she asked me to care for the baby while she went out to do some shopping. Of course, the heating contractor came just after she left and the baby began to cry. I took my visitor into another room, shut the doors, and left the baby to enjoy his crying spell by himself.

Saturday, 3 May, Washington; clear and pleasant. After breakfast I looked up my identification and permit cards and drove down 15th Street below Pennsylvania Avenue, parked, and went into the Traffic Bureau, filled out a new application for a driver's permit, and then appeared before an officer who began to ask questions to test my knowledge of the traffic regulations. ^RHe was courteous and I expressed to him my surprise at the requirements of the Traffic Bureau in cases of drivers of long experience, and I showed him my former permits. He looked at them and said it was true that under a new law or regulation my former District of Columbia permit was obsolete but that my Maryland permit was still in force and that no driving demonstration would be required. At another desk I paid the required fee and was given a temporary permit to be exchanged for a permanent one in ten days.

The nearest place I could find to ~~park the car~~ to the department for parking the car was along the drive next to the tidal basin about half a mile from the office.

At the office I began studying a Spanish translation that had been made in the Pan American Union of the proposed agenda.

Mr. Alexander Hume Ford, Director of the Pan Pacific Union, whom

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4160

I had met in Honolulu, came in to see me. He was attending the annual meeting of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and was stopping at the Cosmos Club. He said he was organizing the second Pan Pacific Food Conference at Honolulu for August 31. and wanted me to attend. He also said that Dr. Alsberg of the Food Research Foundation of the Leland Stanford University was much interested and would be in Washington in a few days and wanted my cooperation.

I left early and drove the machine to the garage for a supply of gasoline and to have the tires pumped up. I asked wife if I could drive her around the speedway, but she declined. We took supper at a restaurant. Otis refused to go with us, preferring to be given the price of a can of beans and forage ~~on~~ⁱ the pantry.

Sunday, 4 May, Washington; a bright lovely day. After breakfast I drove out to Winworth. Charles Worthy and Otis followed, but because his car was new he had to drive slowly. I took Sister Nellie with me up to Sunny Hill and we picked out a place for the dahlias and decided that the iris would have to be moved in the fall. The peonies were twelve to eighteen inches high. The flowering Japanese cherry tree was lovely, a mass of double ~~pink~~ rose pink blossoms. The oaks were beginning to break buds. Only a few narcissus blossoms remained. The mountains were beautiful in their fresh green dress shimmering with the bright sunlight. Otis took luncheon with the Massers. We had the usual chicken dinner at Winworth. Also I had some of my sister's home-made wine. Early in the afternoon Mr. Price and Thelma appeared. I drove back to Washington alone.

Wife had the table set and soon afterwards Charlie and Eunice, Mr. Price, Thelma, and Otis came. Miss Jenkins also came down. So there were eight of us. After supper the Johnstons came in, but did not stay long. Then Walker Chapman came in and the young people started

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4161

a game of cards. In the evening I wrote to several firms ordering farm tools. Also a letter to mother, thinking she might be lonely after Eunice left. Eunice was rejoining Charlie in Washington.

~~Monday, -5-May, -Washington; clear-and-hot, --~~

~~(Mother, 4 May, Washington, brown folder)~~ omit

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4162

Monday, 5 May, Washington; clear and hot. Rather quiet at the office. Mr. Bayard, editor of "La Hacienda," an agricultural magazine published in Spanish at New York, called and wanted to know how^{or} his publication could cooperate in promoting the agricultural conference. Also Mr. Redfern, of the American Express, called to see about furnishing bus transportation for touring parties. In the corridor I met Mr. Lisle Morrison, whom I succeeded in charge of the old Congressional Seed Distribution. He looked much older, with gray beard and hair.

At the house I found my wife much distressed and very indignant because the court had decided against the Teft Johnstons in their suit to break his mother's will. She insisted that his sister, two nieces, and others, had perjured themselves. I made the mistake of saying that such a verdict was a foregone conclusion and that it was a just one because the daughter had borne with and cared for her mother many years, especially during the years of her physical decline and final illness, whereas the son had taken no interest in his mother except for a Christmas dinner; and then I unwittingly added insult to injury by saying that I had always thought the members of the family rather selfish and presuming. My wife turned on me fiercely and said that I had always spoiled her social life by making unkind remarks about her friends. I reminded her that the sister she now detested so heartily and accused of perjury was at one time ~~much~~ admired by her quite as much as she now admired her mercenary brother; and as to spoiling her social life she must realize that scarcely an evening passed without friends and neighbors coming in and staying long hours so that I had little opportunity for rest, recreation, reading, or writing. When we returned ~~to~~ from having supper at a restaurant we found the Johnstons sitting on our front doorstep, and shortly

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4163

thereafter several neighbors came in to condole with them.

Tuesday, Y May, Washington; cloudy and sultry. On the way to the office I stopped at the Tropical Research Foundation and borrowed the Spanish version of Dr. Orton's original report that led to the calling of the agricultural conference. I took it with me and had some copies made. Mr. Ford of the Pan Pacific Union called and invited me to attend a luncheon at the Cosmos Club Thursday.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon I heard an interesting talk by Mr. E.V. Wilcox about his recent trip to the Orient. He spoke of the efficiency of human labor as compared with machinery. He said that at the experimental sugar station in Java it was found to be cheaper to hire men to spade up the ground than to employ tractors and plows. In India the International Harvester people had found that it cost less to hire eighteen wagons, oxen and drivers to transport rice fifteen miles than did a two ton truck. He explained the recent trouble in Palestine by saying that the land was formerly ~~it~~ held in common with the title vested in the sheik; that with funds supplied by wealthy Jews in New York agents purchased the land from the sheiks who said nothing about it to their Arab tribes, so that when the Jewish immigrants took possession of the land there was trouble with the tribesmen who regarded them as trespassers and, of course, the sheiks denied all knowledge of the bargains they had made. Mr. Wilcox expressed the opinion that the Chinese were the most efficient people on earth and that this will become manifest ~~it~~ whenever they succeed in managing their own country.

On returning to the office Mr. Hobson came in for the first time in many weeks, although his office adjoined mine. He wanted my opinion of Mr. Haskell. Finished ^ereading the Spanish translation of Dr. Orton's long report.

After supper the Johnstons were in again, but I ~~it~~ left

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4164

them and retired to my den.

Wednesday, 7 May, Washington; clear and hot. Many fires in Maryland were reported. Spent an hour with Dr. Rowe and Dr. Gil Borges at the Pan American Union. They approved the final draft of the conference program and agreed to have it translated into Spanish. Dr. Rowe agreed to see the Secretary of State regarding the form of the invitation that should go to the Latin American governments and asked me to prepare a letter for the signature of the Secretary of Agriculture to the Secretary of State explaining exactly what was wanted.

At the office I found Mr. John W. Tracy waiting for me. He was my assistant in the old seed distribution days. I took him to the Cosmos Club for luncheon. He looked much older, much stouter, and rather flabby. We talked mostly of the seed growing business.

At the house I was told that workmen had called in the morning and begun preparations for installing the new heating plant. Received a letter from George Carson, the handyman whom we had not seen for some days, saying that he had been arrested for drunkenness and vagrancy and sentenced to serve four months at Occoquan. He had already served one month and asked me to write to the judge who sentenced him and try to get him pardoned. He was very indignant at the charge of vagrancy. I wrote such a letter, but it had no effect and was not even acknowledged.

Thursday, 8 May, Washington; clear and summer heat. At the office I dictated a preface for the volume of technical papers. Worked on an alphabetical list of authors and the titles of their papers.

At the Cosmos Club I attended a luncheon meeting of departmental specialists presided over by Mr. Ford. He explained the purposes of the Second Pan Pacific Food Conference at Honolulu and

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4165

named Mr. Montgomery, chief of the Food Division of the Department of Commerce, Dr. Nourse of the Brookings Institute, Mr. Englund of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and myself, as a committee to look after the economic section of the program. After the meeting Mr. MacDonald, Chief of the Bureau of Public Roads, asked for a private interview and we went into a corner. He said he had in mind a project involving a study of all the different methods of financing road building programs in the different States, and he wanted to know if I would take charge of it. I said that I was completely tied up with organizing the coming Agricultural Conference until next October at least, after which I would be glad to consider his proposal. As a matter of fact it ^awa^s not mentioned between us again.

At the house laborers were at work on the heating plant and the electric wiring. Wife and I went to a picture show in the evening.

Friday, 9 May, Washington; clear and hot. Spent the day indexing papers. A fleet of more than one hundred airplanes passed over the city en route ^{from} New York to Hampton Roads. They maneuvered beautifully as they passed over the Monument grounds and the Potomac

At the Cosmos Club luncheon a strange young man sat opposite me. He said he was an editor and it was evident he had an excellent opinion of himself. He asserted that business conditions were improving rapidly and that sentiment in favor of prohibition was growing and that it was sure to be a success, although he admitted it might take several generations. We got into a heated argument when I ventured to differ with him. Just before leaving the office one of the old field agents came in. Among other things he said all the field men were interested in knowing when I was going to publish a book and were hoping I would get a square deal. I told

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4166

him he could report that so far the square deal^a had not materialized.

Saturday, 10 May, Washington; clear and hot. Dictated a list of authors for the conference. In the afternoon had a long interview with Mr. Sweinhart who agreed to prepare an article on international competition in agriculture. Had^a a long letter from Dr. Gil Borges inclosing resolutions adopted at the last meeting of the Board of Governors of the Pan American Union referring to the Inter American Conference on Agriculture, recommending that such a conference be held every five years, with annual meetings in each country, and that the Division of Agricultural Cooperation in the Union be greatly expanded.

~~The Johnstons spent the evening at our house.~~

Sunday, 11 May, Washington; fair and cooler. Took Otis with me to Sunny Hill. Sister Nellie said our corn came up nicely but the crows pulled most of it up and it will have to be replanted. At Sunny Hill the irises were short and weak for lack of rain at the proper time. The white lilacs did not bloom this season; probably the buds froze. The peonies were about knee high and the leaves were shriveled, also for lack of rain. Everything was suffering severely because of the drouth. Charlie and Eunice were at Winworth and Mr. Price and Thelma came out in the afternoon. I sometimes wondered why the Prices did not drive somewhere else occasionally instead of coming out to Sunny Hill so regularly. I suspected Thelma was responsible, simply because I had told her to stay away from Sunny Hill unless Mommie and I were there to act as a restraining influence. Otherwise I could see no reason why occasionally they might^{not} vary their program and run over to Annapolis, or down to Richmond, or up to Gettysburg, or to any one of many places within easy reach of Washington.

On the return trip I let Otise drive the new car part way.

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4167

The young man had so abused the privilege of using the old car that when I got the new one I was resolved to keep it completely within my own control, for which reason I had kept the key always with me. ~~The young man~~ ^{He} knew that he was in disgrace and so far had not had the courage to ask for the car. At the same time I regretted that I could not trust him with it alone.

Monday, 12 May, Washington; cloudy and cool. Spent the day listing the technical papers to be submitted to the conference. Also dictated letters to the authors asking for carbon copies of their papers. This was necessary because it was desirable to have a complete set on file while the other set of copies was at the Pan American Union for translation.

Tuesday, 13 May, Washington; fair and warmer. This was the twenty-fourth day without any rain. Spent the day arranging the material for the documentary book of the conference. At the Farm Hands Club luncheon was a group of young Germans on a tour of inspection of the agriculture of the United States. Messrs. Gray and Loomis summarized pending legislation in Congress affecting agriculture.

~~(List of titles of papers, 13 May, salmon folder)~~ *omit*

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4168

Wednesday, 14 May, Washington; cloudy with a few light showers. At the Cosmos Club I read a magazine article by Mr. Lawrence on the "Futility of Farm Relief," and recommending purchase by States and the Federal Government of marginal lands, the withdrawal of public lands from settlement, and the shutting down of irrigation projects, in order to reduce surplus production. This met my complete approval. For many years it had seemed to me a tragical mistake for the government to permit people to settle on marginal lands in the west and undergo untold hardships for themselves and families and in opening up new lands and increasing crop production through great and expensive irrigation projects when farmers generally could not make wages elsewhere because of low prices due to overproduction and lack of marketing facilities. All this had been perfectly obvious for many years to the officials of the Department of Agriculture, but no one had had the nerve to say so in public because he would have lost his job if he did.

At the office Mr. James of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce called to invite me to accompany a party on a visit to the model farm of Mr. Butterworth, president of the Chamber, Friday afternoon.

After supper Charles Worthy drove my wife out to the Unitarian Church to attend a Grange meeting. I stayed at home to read through a package of letters I had written to mother many years ago which she returned to me on my last visit.

Thursday, 15 May, Washington; cloudy with light showers. Had to get up early on account of the heating plant workmen. The house was full of broken plaster and dust. The workmen were very indifferent and brutal in their treatment of furniture and they loafed on the jobs badly. The second day after working an hour three men went away and did not return until the middle of the af-

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4169

ternoon. A fourth workman laid down on the kitchen floor and slept peacefully during their absence.

In the forenoon arranging material for the documentary book. Had luncheon with Mr. Gage in the restaurant of the Washington Hotel. Then rode on the street car across town to the Weather Bureau and had an interview with Prof. Marvin regarding the participation of the Weather Bureau officials in the conference. From him I learned that an international meteorological committee had been formed in 1878 and in 1930 was organizing a secretariat in Geneva with twenty-four supporting governments to bring about coordinated cooperation in an international weather service. He agreed to formulate a resolution for introduction and consideration of our agricultural conference.

Friday, 16 May, Washington; clear and pleasant. At the office numbering and indexing the technical papers submitted. Received a copy of a press release regarding the conference prepared by Mr. Sweinhart. A representative of the Associated Press called for an interview and stayed until 12.30 p.m.

Early in the afternoon I joined a party that was collecting at the east entrance to the Bureau of Animal Industry where a bus was waiting to convey us to the farm of Mr. Butterworth in Maryland. We drove across the city to the Eastern Branch, out beyond T.B., and turned off the State road a short distance until we came to the estate. It contained about 780 acres of poor cheap land, had a number of modern buildings, all sorts of farm machinery, a herd of pure bred dairy cows, a flock of pure bred chickens, the whole under the expert management of a former county demonstration agent. After inspecting the livestock we were driven to another portion of the estate to witness the blowing up of a ditch with dynamite. Our

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4170

party stood about two hundred yards from the line of dynamite charges. When the explosion came an immense quantity of dirt was blown high up in the air and fell in a shower that covered more than an acre. Some of it fell about us. I ducked just in time to avoid being struck in the face, but my new straw hat and newly cleaned and pressed suit were spattered with wet earth. In another field we saw a demonstration of clearing land of second growth trees with a tractor.

In the evening wife attended a committee meeting at the Unitarian church to arrange some kind of a Grange program. Otis had developed ^{ing} a habit of leaving the supper table abruptly, going out, and returning about midnight, never vouchsafing a word as to where he goes or what he sees or hears. Such matters, of course, were no business of his foster parents. He was supposed to be studying his correspondence course in automobiles, but I saw no evidence of it. He was simply a grouchy and very disagreeable young man who kept out of sight as much as possible. George, the handyman, was still languishing in prison, for which I was not sorry because it relieved my house of his unwelcome presence.

Saturday, 17 May, Washington; clear and hot. Carbon copies of technical papers that I had called for began to come in. I brought together Mr. Sweinhart, press agent for the conference, and Mr. Gapen, chief of the Department Press Service, and got them to agree upon procedure with reference to handling the publicity work of the conference. Saw Dr. Woods at the Cosmos Club and told him about this agreement. In the afternoon dictated a memorandum about the committee and personnel organization of the conference, with names and titles, for the information of the press service.

Our house was in a mess from the debris scattered about by the workmen installing heating plant and electricity.

(1930, May, Washington)

E--41 71

Sunday, 18 May, Washington; clear and hot, following a light rain during the night, the first in a month. Reading in the forenoon. In the afternoon drove with Otis down to the speedway. The Lincoln Memorial Bridge was nearing completion. Along the speedway iris, peonies, and hemerocalis were in bloom, but they looked stunted from the long draught. We drove across the highway bridge to Ft. Meyer Heights and back by way of Georgetown. Charlie and Eunice, Mr. Price and Thelma, spent the evening with us. In the afternoon I had a telephone message from Mrs. Watts Estabrook saying that a radio message had come from Amiens, France, that was not for her and she thought might be intended for me. I walked around to the radio office to get it, but the office was closed.

Monday, 19 May, Washington; cloudy and cool. At the office I called up all the specialists whose technical papers had not reached me and got them to promise to try to get the papers to me within a few days. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Mr. Ryerson who said he was about to leave for a ~~ix~~ five months tour of the Mediterranean countries in search of promising plant material, especially grapes. Had a long interview with Dr. Gil Borges at the Pan American Union. He said the president of Colombia was planning to send fifty boys to this country to be educated in new ways and customs.

At the house I found the new hot water heating plant installed and a fire going. Apparently it functioned as it should. I had contracted^c for a furnace of double the required capacity and had a guaranty that it would maintain a temperature of 62 degrees in zero weather. I hoped never again to have such a cold house as we had the previous winter.

~~(Memo. re organization program for press, 19 May, salmon folder)~~ omit

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4172

Tuesday, 20 May, Washington; clear and pleasant. Had an interview with Miss Sherman of the editorial office and with Dr. Woods, with whom I left a report ~~of~~ of progress, and with Dr. Galloway, who was a member of the organizing committee and drew up the first outline of program for the conference.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Dr. Woodbury, technician for the Cannery Association, described his trip to Hawaii.

The heating plant contractor called in the evening and I paid him in full.

Otis began night work at the Nolan garage on 18th Street.

I cleaned up some of the mess in the basement left by the workmen so that I could take refuge in the den to escape neighbor visitors.

Wednesday, 21 May, Washington; clear and pleasant. Had an interview with Dr. E. C. Smith of the Extension Service about the proposal of the president of Colombia as to the education of fifty Colombian boys in this country, after which I embodied his suggestions in a letter to Dr. Gil Borges. Received several technical papers to be recorded, read, and passed on to the Pan American Union for translation.

I walked down to the Botanical Garden to see an exhibit of irises and peonies. There were many hundreds of entries, but the blossoms showed the effect of the drouth.

After the mess made by the heating plant and electrical workmen the house needed repapering. Wife very much wanted the papering done by an elderly paperhanger whom she knew. After supper I took her and Miss Jenkins in the car across the city in search of this paperhanger, whose address ~~my~~^{we} did not know, except that his last known address^s was in a certain section. After much driving about and inquiry at drug and grocery stores we finally found the place,

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4173

and then there was a long wait for my wife's visit to come to an end. The paperhanger promised to come and make an estimate on papering our house.

Otis returned from his work at 8 a.m. . Said he had been up all night, but he had managed to slip away and come home for a midnight lunch. He slept until 4 p.m. when he went down town to buy a suit of overalls, because the garage objected to his wearing a white duck suit with "Airport" in large letters on the back. The manager was unfeeling enough to tell him that the garage was not an airport.

Thursday, 22 May, Washington; clear and pleasant. Otis came in before breakfast looking very glum. He refused to eat anything and went immediately to bed.

At 10 a.m. I met with a committee in the office of Mr. Warburton Extension Director, to consider the exhibits proposed for the conference and a plan was agreed upon.

I went home at noon intending to drive out to Sunny Hill in the afternoon but found that the Electric Light Company had torn up the back alley so I could not get the car out. I asked the workmen if they could have the dirt removed by 5 p.m. and they said they could. I therefore ^{went back} ~~returned~~ to the office. I returned and left in the car at 5 p.m. and had a pleasant drive out to Winworth. While mother was preparing a light supper for me I drove with sister up to Sunny Hill. She had been picking peonies all day and the packing room was full. The peony plants and blossoms were only about half normal size because of the drouth. However, the place looked well in spite of the drouth. The lawns had been freshly clipped. The barn and outbuildings had been freshly whitewashed. The iris, the matronals, and many of the shrubs were in bloom. Had a nice supper and spent a pleasant evening with mother and sister at Winworth. Mother gave me

(1930, May, Washington; 4174

a bottle of homemade wine to take to my room with me. There I read the Saturday Evening Post, smoked, and sipped the wine until I felt sleepy. It was a pleasant escape and respite from the stress and strain of the antagonistic influences in my Washington home, or house, because it had ~~se~~ ceased to be a real home.

Friday, 23 May, Washington; clear and hot. Had an early breakfast and drove with mother and sister to Washington, reaching home at 7.30 a.m.

At the office had a visit from a Mr. Perkins, who presented a letter of introduction from Mr. Simon J. Lubin. He said that Mr. Lubin wished to have me at Sacramento to help organize the Reciprocal Trade Conference in August. Drafted a letter to Mr. Warburton concerning the conference exhibits.

Saturday, 24 May, Washington; clear and hot. Wore a Panama suit for the first time this season. Saw Mr. Hobson and agreed to take him out to Sunny Hill the next day. Mr. Southgate of the State Department called up to say that Mr. Carr would appear before the Committee on Appropriations and wished to have me there to answer any questions that might come up regarding the conference. I went up to the Capitol immediately. We had to wait nearly an hour and sat in the committee room with a window overlooking the city. I recalled the many times I had sat in that room in the years gone by, first in 1894 when Mr. Courts was clerk of the Committee on Appropriations; in 1913, when the Secretary of Commerce, Postmaster General and I Burleson, Messrs. Steuart and Austin of the Census Bureau, appeared before a subcommittee to defend the item providing for a quinquennial agricultural census; and then in the years that followed to defend so much of the agricultural bill as related to the Bureau of Crop Estimates and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. At last Mr. Carr and I were called before the committee. The appropriation bill for

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4175

the State Department which included many items. When the agricultural conference item was reached Mr. Carr made a brief statement which was accepted without question, probably because the conference had already been authorized by Congress and the amount involved was small.

On the way out I stopped in statuary hall and noted many additions since I had last seen it. A race of airplanes was scheduled for the afternoon. Shortly after noon a fleet of airplanes in formation passed over the city. At 1.30 p.m. a squall came up. A small dirigible, the Los Angeles, could not land because of the wind and for several hours beat about trying to keep in sight of Washington. From my office window I could see it tossed up and down and pitching forwards and backwards and rolling sideways. There was a decided fall in temperature after the squall passed.

At 5 p.m. I took wife in the car to the Unitarian church where the Grange was to have a supper. Wife was on the arrangements committee and I helped dish out the food along with a number of other volunteers. There was a large attendance and barely enough food. At 8 p.m. a short play was given by Grange talent and in it wife represented Little Red Riding Hood. My wife had invit^ed Miss Jenkins to go with us. It was late when we returned to the house.

~~(Warburton, exhibits, 24 May, salmon folder).~~ omit

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4176

Sunday, 25 May, Washington; clear and cool. At 10 a.m. I drove with wife and Otis to the Hobsons' apartment house opposite the Zoo. From there Otis drove wife and Mrs. Hobson in our car and Mr. Hobson drove with me and one of his children in his car. The country was very attractive. We reached Sunny Hill shortly after noon and had luncheon on the lawn in front of the little Cricket House. Then we took a walk about the place, through the woods, and back by the lower place. Near the peony field we met Dr. Jones and his family. I gave Mrs. Hobson and Mrs. Jones a lot of peony blossoms. There were many visitors all the time we were at the upper place. We left at 3.30 p.m. and stopped for a few minutes at Winworth to see mother and sister. Eunice and Charlie were there also. We left Winworth at 4.30 p.m. and reached home at 6 p.m. Charlie and Eunice said they had moved into a small apartment at 1012 17th Street a few doors above our house.

Monday, 26 May, Washington; clear and cool--down to 48 degrees with strong wind. Had heat turned on at both the house and the office. Took the car to the garage where Otis was employed to have oil changed. The manager said he planned to assign Otis to the stock room the following week. Wife was very indignant when I told her, although this would mean day work for Otis and she had complained at the hardship of night work. Walker Chapman called in the evening after going to Columbus, Ohio, at his own expense for the privilege of making a parachute jump for which he received no compensation. However, he had the adventurous experience and was hopeful that he would secure an agency to sell parachutes at Washington.

Tuesday, 27 May, Washington; clear and cold. Dictated letters, received technical papers, and called up a number of specialists urging them to hurry up their papers.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Mr. Marquis told about an

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4177

automobile trip he had made through the cotton States; a representative of the American Farm Bureau Federation told of his efforts to organize a farm bureau in each county which in turn would appoint a county committee to organize road work; and Dr. Carleton R. Ball summarized the provisions of the recent law for patenting new plant creations.

Wednesday, 28 May, Washington; clear and not so cold. The paper hanger started work in the house. Wife had selected the paper which was trimmed and delivered, and she was much disappointed when the paper hanger refused to exchange it for another pattern she liked better. The electric light fixtures were installed and the gas turned off. For the first time the old house was equipped for hot water heat and electric lights.

~~Otis returned from the garage in the morning in an ugly mood because the manager had asked him to return at 3 p.m. to drive his daughter out to Walter Reed Hospital. Wife was very indignant and wanted to call up the manager and tell him that he was working the boy to death. I dissuaded her and suggested that perhaps the manager thought he was showing special favor to Otis to let him drive out with his daughter, and that if Otis was wise he would try to please the daughter and through her the father who was in a position to help him. When I returned in the afternoon Otis was dressed up and very sulky. He waited until the last minute before leaving the house to report for duty and wife spent the last five minutes persuading him to go. The most difficult thing about him was his refusal to talk or give any indication as to what was on his mind.~~

The day at the office was spent on routine matters.

Thursday, 29 May, Washington; cloudy and cold. A quiet day at the office and I left early.

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4178

At the house I packed up a few things and drove out to Winworth. Had supper at the Francis Scott Key restaurant and was surprised at the high prices. Soup, roast beef and potatoes, bread and butter, and coffee, cost \$1.20, which was much higher than Washington prices. The hotel lobby and dining room were decorated with peonies from Sunny Hill. At Winworth I found that mother and sister were having a late supper in the kitchen. Sister had been working hard all day with peonies at Sunny Hill and setting the house in order at Winworth. We sat up until 10 o'clock talking. Sister Nellie said the flowers were scarce and inferior because of the drouth but although we were ^ashamed of the peonies they were better than any others in the country. Because of the scarcity there was a good local demand, the telephone had been ringing all day, and that day she had taken in \$57 in ^acash sales. We had a very pleasant evening together, mother, ~~wister~~, and I. I had a bottle of homemade wine to drink and I asked my sister to try to put some up for me in the autumn, I to furnish all the materials and pay for the work, she to supervise the operation.

(~~Chester Gray, statement re conference, 29 May, salmon folder~~) *omit*

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4179

Friday, ⁰3~~R~~ May, Washington; clear, windy, and cool. Sister and Lewis Blank went up to Sunny Hill early. I drove into Frederick with mother and out to the cemetery where we decorated father's grave with iris and peonies. It is a pretty cemetery and from our lot we can see Sunny Hill on the mountain. After ^ataking mother back to Winworth I continued on to Sunny Hill. I cleaned out the bathroom of the Cricket House and carried the couch that Otis had occupied to another building for storage. Did some pruning and cleaning up. Sever^{al} groups of people drove up in cars for peonies. The roads were dusty and everything showed the effects of the drouth. Had a nice chicken dinner with mother and sister. Returned to Sunny Hill and cut some briars. It was a clear day and the valley below us looked very beautiful. The climbing roses on the stone fence were beginning to bloom. For supper we had a strawberry short-cake.

Saturday, 31 May, Sunny Hill; clear and very cool and a high ~~wa~~ wind. After a good breakfast I went up to Sunny Hill. Spent the forenoon pruning shrubs, fixing gates and doors, and other odd jobs. Spent the early part of the afternoon helping sister pick peonies for the visitors expected the following day.

Had a pleasant drive into Washington and found the paper hanger working in our bedroom, wife cleaning up, and Otis in a lounging robe. Wife announced that she had arranged to go out to Sunny Hill with the Johnstons the next day. Otis was more cheerful than he had been for a week and I suspected he had his week's pay to spend. I asked him if he knew whether he would be expected to work Sunday night and he said he did not know. I suggested that he find out, because if he had to work at night he should not spend the day at Sunny Hill without any sleep. I gathered from him that wife was expecting a gathering at Sunny Hill--ourselves, the John-

(1930, May, Washington)

E--4180

stons, the Loomises, Charlie and Eunice, and perhaps others. I took note of the fact that wife had so far refused to go to Sunny Hill with me in our own machine and that any suggestion I ventured to make was either ignored or regarded with disfavor by her. She was the only person in all the world at that time who refused to discuss with me in a friendly way matters of mutual interest,

Sunday, 1 June, Washington; clear and pleasant. After breakfast Otis and I drove out to Frederick and there picked up Mr. and Mrs. Loomis and Mr. and Mrs. Cornell, of the Grange, and then out to Sunny Hill. Wife and Miss Jenkins came out later with Mr. and Mrs. Johnston, having been delayed en route with a blowout. Mr. Johnston spent most of the afternoon trying to repair the tire. I took Mr. Loomis and Mr. Cornell for a walk over the place and through the woods. The ladies made up a party and did some exploring on their own account. We sat on the lawn nearly an hour waiting for the Johnstons to appear. Mother telephoned that they were at Winworth but were afraid to make the steep grade with their old machine. I went down after them.

We had luncheon on the Cricket House lawn which wife had prepared. Then we walked about the place and gathered a supply of peoniss and laurel. Many visitors came up in cars to see the display of peonies. Everything looked bright and pretty, and the view of the valley was lovely.

On the way down we stopped at Winworth to see our family. Mr. Johnston was still working over his busted tire. Some friends of Eunice and Charlie were there also. It was 7 p.m. when we reached home and the new electric lights seemed very cheerful.

Monday, 2 June, Washington; clear and hot. Workmen came to put a new roof on the garage. Otis did not work today. He was sent out in the afternoon to drive some old ladies and after being out

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4181

a few hours they gave him one dollar. He was very huffy about it, because he had expected something like five dollars, and he was exasperated when I suggested that if he was getting wages from the garage for his time he should not accept tips--only servants and inferiors accepted tips--but if he did accept a tip he should do it gracefully and be thankful for it.

During the day I received a letter from Mr. Thompson, the British delegate to the International Institute of Agriculture, inclosing a copy of his report on the world agricultural census for the next General Assembly meeting. I wrote him a long letter regarding the status of the Department of Agriculture with respect to the Institute. Also received a press release from the University of Florida outlining its Latin American cooperative project in which my name was included in the list of members of the Advisory Board along with several college presidents, John Barrett, Representative Mrs. Bryan Owen, and Dr. Rowe, Director of the Pan American Union.

After supper wife and I went to a picture show.

~~(Thompson, 2 June, Washington, salmon folder)~~ omit

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4182

Tuesday, 3 June, Washington; clear and hot. At the office did some follow-up work on technical papers not yet delivered. At the Farm Hands Club luncheon there were talks by a representative of the National Grange, by Chester Gray of the American Farm Bureau Federation, Charles Holman of the National Institute of Agriculture, and a county agent from Colorado. In the afternoon Mr. James of the Office of Roads called on behalf of a young lady Porto Rican whom his family had befriended and who had taken lessons in typewriting.

At the house the paper hanger was still making a mess. Otis sulking and came to the supper table in his garage overalls. Rather than spoil our supper I said nothing until after he left abruptly and then I told my wife that if Otis ever appeared at my table again dressed in filthy overalls as he did this evening either he or I would have to leave and might never return, and I did not feel disposed to leave. I left it to her to break the sad news to the young man in her own way.

~~(Lombardi, 3 June, Washington, brown folder)~~ omit

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4183

Wednesday, 4 June, Washington; clear and hot, 94 deg.

Mr. Tutt, whom we had known at Buenos Aires and who was then Trade Commissioner at Houston, spent the evening with us. While wife entertained him I went out for a supply of ice cream. Wife enjoyed his visit greatly. He talked about his Argentine experience and his experiences since. He spoke of some sort of a regional commercial conference to be held at Houston and wanted to arrange to have me as one of the speakers.

Thursday, 5 June, Washington; clear and hot, 94 deg. Busy at the office with technical papers for the conference.

Friday, 6 June, Washington; hot and oppressive. Visited the Tropical Research Foundation and left some papers to be copied. There I met Mr. Barret~~tz~~ who had just returned from making a timber survey in Venezuela and Nicaragua. He said he had spent three years in Argentina and Paraguay with a commercial company and he agreed with me that parts of Paraguay are very beautiful. He had spent some time also in Brazil and Haiti.

At the house the paper hangers were still at work. I saw little of Otis after he began working at 4 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Gage called in the evening.

~~(Memo. to Dr. Woods, Exhibits, 6 June, salmon folder)~~ omit

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4193

Saturday, 7 June, Washington; slightly cooler following a shower during the night. Dictated a list of names and addresses to which official invitations to attend the conference should be sent. Mr. Haskell called to ask if he might be considered for the post of assistant secretary to the conference, inasmuch as his position with the Federal Farm Board was temporary. I left early and drove out to Winworth in time for supper with mother and sister. Eunice and Charlie came out a little later.

Sunday, 8 June, Sunny Hill; clear and hot. After breakfast I drove up to Sunny Hill and spent the forenoon cutting weeds and briars. The peonies were done blooming, with the smallest sales since they were planted many years before. I walked across the patch and saw that many hills were missing and many more were weak. Many of the shrubs were overgrown. The Philadelphus was in full bloom, as well as the foxgloves and correopsis. The climbing roses were just beginning to bloom. I rested awhile at the upper end of the narcissus field to look at the beautiful landscape. A gray squirrel played about me.

When I returned in the late afternoon wife was taking a bath. She went out without speaking and returned two or three hours later without saying where she had been.

Monday, 9 June, Washington; showers and cooler. Had a carpenter fixing doors and windows. The paper hanger was still at work.

At the office busy writing letters and telephoning.

At the house wife still in a bad humor. Reading one of Lincoln's books.

Tuesday, 10 June, Washington; fair and cool. Had a conference with Dr. Gil Borges regarding the progress of the preparatory work for the conference, and the delay in getting the necessary appro-

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4194

priation.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon I heard a brief talk by Mr. Blythe of the Ladies Home Journal who said that men seemed to be as much interested in the advertisements of that journal as women. In a discussion of the depression several expressed the opinion that business would pick up in the autumn and winter months.

In the early evening Otis came home much crestfallen, saying that he had been paid off and discharged from the garage where he had worked for two weeks. The only reason given was "inexperience!" I suspected it was partly bad manners. I suggested that he should not be discouraged, that he had gained some experience, had earned some money, which was something to be proud of, and that he might hope for better luck next time.

Wednesday, 11 June, Washington; clear and pleasant. Had a quiet day at the office. Wife concerned because Otis looked pale and thin. I suggested that it was probably due to overeating and an unbalanced diet because he ~~xx~~ rather specialized on deserts and ^gavoided plain food, and was overfond of pickles and mustard. Also he was irregular in his habits, eating between meals at all hours what he liked in the pantry, which made him indifferent to regular meals. Wife professed not to believe it, although it was a matter of daily occurrence.

Thursday, 12 June, Washington; clear and hot. Another quiet day of waiting at the office. Little more could be done until Congress passed the appropriation bill. On the way back from luncheon I stopped at the National Museum and inspected an exhibit of modern Hungarian art, in which I was greatly disappointed.

Friday, 13 June, Washington; clear and hot. Spent the day indexing papers for the conference.

The paper hanger finished his work after keeping the house

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4195

in a mess for more than two weeks. Saw Otis only a few minutes at breakfast. He took supper with Thelma. I was feeling somewhat discouraged, probably because of physical condition, the steady grind of preparation for the conference, the waiting and suspense for Congressional action on the appropriation, my complete isolation in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the temporary character of my employment, the unsatisfactory situation and conduct of Otis, and the growing estrangement between myself and wife. There did not seem to be much I could do about it except keep plugging away at my job and try to be just and friendly in dealing with the family. Yes, "God bless our happy home."

Saturday, 14 June, Washington; clear and hot. Spent the forenoon at the office making abstracts of papers for the conference. It was Flag Day and the office was closed in the afternoon. At the house I found wife and Otis beginning to clean up after the paper hanger. I cleaned up my den and hung pictures on the walls, so that for the first time in weeks it began to look habitable. I asked wife if she cared to go to Sunny Hill the next day and she declined. Then I drove leisurely out to Winworth and had a fried chicken supper with mother and sister. Helped sister pick some raspberries and climbing roses. Then we sat on the veranda and watched the twinkling lights of Frederick and the valley and listened to the song of the crickets. It was very ^qquiet, peaceful, and pleasant.

Sunday, 15 June, Sunny Hill; clear and hot. After breakfast I drove up to Sunny Hill, changed my clothes, and with a scythe cut weeds around the entrance gate. To one side of the entrance was an old Ford roadster, a young/^{man} ~~man~~ and two hunting dogs. He ~~said~~ said they were Kentucky fox hounds. When I mentioned it to my sister she said the same outfit had been seen in the same spot before. I could not understand why he should have chosen our front entrance as a

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4196

camping out place when there were miles of uninclosed woodland just across the public road. I continued down to the lower place, clearing out sprouts and overhanging branches as I went. The team was grazing on short dry stubble in a field and looked badly. Some of the orchard trees were dying and the grass was burned up from the drouth. A field of oats was heading out half kneww high. I returned to the Cricket House about 11 a.m. and got out the portable phonograph and played some records. Then I picked an armful of flowers to take home with me. Had a nice luncheon with sister and mother and sat in the shade outside for an hour or more. At 3 o'clock I started on the return trip to Washington. At the house I found Thelma and the baby.

Monday, 16 June, Washington; clear and hot. Spent a quiet day at the office. In the evening writing checks to settle accounts. The total cost of installing the heating plant and electricity, repairs to garage, papering, and other repairs, was nearly \$2,000. At any rate I had the satisfaction of knowing that the house would be comfortable in future if we continued to live in it, and if not it would rent readily. Occasionally I had suggested to wife that we would be much more comfortable in a small flat, and rent the large house, so that she would not have so many stairs to climb and rooms to look after, but she would not listen. From her manner I inferred that she could not bring herself to think of disturbing Miss Jenkins, who occupied the two upper floors. One of my wife's peculiarities was that she was more concerned about the comfort and convenience of some nonmember of the family than she was of the family itself.

Tuesday, 17 June, Washington; rain in the late afternoon. I called at the State Department for a copy of the invitation that had been prepared for sending out to the Latin American governments as soon as the appropriation was passed by Congress. The officials were

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4197

in doubt as to how invitations should be sent to individuals and institutions in the United States. They were quite certain that such invitations could not be sent out by the State Department, but were inclined to think they might be sent by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Pan American Union. Attended an interesting meeting of the Farm Hands Club luncheon.

Thelma came to take supper with wife and I and we went to a restaurant for it.

Wednesday, 18 June, Washington; clear and hot. Attended a conference of officials at the Pan American Union to consider procedure in the matter of sending out invitations to people in the United States, the signing of requisitions for the purchase of supplies, the making of appointments of persons for secretarial help, and the like. Also I called at the Government Printing Office to see the superintendent of Planning and to explain the urgency of the printing work for the agricultural conference, and I left with him a memorandum of the probable number of pages and volumes.

~~(Sister Nellie, 18 June, brown folder)~~ omit

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4198

Thursday, 19 June, Washington; clear and hot. Dictated a report on the conference of the previous day. Dr. A. J. Pieters called with Miss Green, the little Porto Rican girl concerning whom Mr. James of the Office of Public Roads had spoken. They said she had supported herself by domestic work while attending high school, that Spanish was her native language, and that she could operate a typewriter but was without office experience. I promised to see if she could be utilized in connection with the office work of the conference after the appropriation became available. Finished an index of the technical papers submitted making 59 pages of typewriting.

At the office I found Otis helping Walker Chapman tinker with an old and much dilapidated Ford touring car that Walker had bought for \$25.00.

Friday, 20 June, Washington; clear and pleasant. Stopped at the State Department to interview the Chief of the Accounting Division regarding purchase authorizations, salaries, and accounts of the conference. I walked up to the Cosmos Club for luncheon and opposite the White House saw Admiral Bird and his party on their way to be received by the President.

Saturday, 21 June, Washington; clear and hot. Very quiet at the office and I left early. Spent the rest of the afternoon brushing the ⁶ mths out of my clothing, cleaning up my den, and filing correspondence.

Sunday, 22 June, Washington; clear and hot. Left early with Otis for Sunny Hill by way of Kemptown, Monrovia, and New Market. A shorter road was closed because of the collapse of the bridge over the Monocacy River during the week. The wheat fields were fully ripe and partly harvested. Other crops showed the effect of the drouth. After stopping at Winworth to greet sister and mother we proceeded up the mountain to Sunny Hill. Found one of the bird baths broken.

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4199

There had been a rain during the week but the ground seemed as dry as ever, and there was not enough water in the cistern to pump. The annual flowering plants were ~~stunt~~ stunted, but the hemerocalis made a fine showing. We had a nice dinner at Winworth. Charlie and Eunice were there and early in the afternoon Thelma and her husband came out.

Monday, 23 June, Washington; clear and hot. Revising type-written copies of indexes to papers. Dictated a letter for the signature of the Secretary of Agriculture to the Secretary of State recommending that Dr. Woods and I be designated to represent the Department of Agriculture at the Agricultural Conference. In the afternoon had an interview with Dr. Woods in his quarters in the new administration building. Dr. Rowe, Director of the Pan American Union, telephoned suggesting that I proceed to organize the secretariat immediately. I agreed to act promptly as soon as the appropriation was available. I had planned to take wife to a picture show in the evening but she delayed too long and we decided to give it up rather than hurry and be late.

Tuesday, 24 June, Washington; cloudy and hot. Eunice and Charlie took breakfast with us. Stopped at the State Department and saw Mr. Pendergast, who had succeeded Mr. Southgate. Also saw a Mr. Murray in the Latin American Division. Stopped at the Pan American Union and Dr. Manger showed me the room that would be vacated for the use of the secretariat. Also we interviewed the multigraph man who said he could take care of the duplicating work for the conference if one additional man could be employed to assist him. Also called on Dr. Gil Borges and Mr. Reid.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon a group of extension men described the progress of seed loan work. A Mr. Martin of the Department of Commerce described his efforts the last three years to bring

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4200

about standardization and promote the marketing of Hatien products. In the evening wife and I attended a picture show entitled, "So This is London," which we enjoyed.

Wednesday, 25 June, Washington; clear and hot. Telephoned Mr. Hiscox in charge of exhibits, Dr. Gil Borges regarding mimeograph copies of the program in Spanish and Portuguese to go out immediately, and notified applicants for positions. Dictated a classified list of the invitations to be issued. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Mr. Montgomery. In the evening took wife to a theater and saw moving pictures of Admiral Bird's expedition to the South Pole. It was a remarkable picture and well worth seeing.

Thursday, 26 June, Washington; clear and hot. Saw Dr. Woods about the list of American delegates to be invited to attend the conference. He struck my name out on the ground that I was to be the secretary general and inserted Mr. Olsen's name in order that the Bureau of Agricultural Economics might be represented. At his request I walked across to the Pan American Union and submitted the list to Dr. Rowe, who expressed the opinion that the list should be a large one. Took wife to a picture show in the evening.

Friday, 27 June, Washington; clear and slightly cooler. At 9:30 a.m. Dr. Woods and I interviewed Secretary Hyde in his new quarters and submitted the list of the proposed American delegates to the agricultural conference, which he approved. As on former interviews at which I was present the Secretary was not very communicative. Then had a conference with Messrs. Warburton, Hiscox, Baldwin, and Tyson, regarding the exhibits. After luncheon I called at the office of the General Supply Committee to see if any furniture suitable for the conference secretariat was available. The official in charge admitted that most of the furniture turned over to them by

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4201

by the various departments were discarded pieces that were in bad shape and ready for the junk pile. He asked that I send him a list of our probable needs and he would see if there was anything that might be of use. I prepared such a list and sent it to him the same day.

In the same building were the offices of the Office of Plant Introduction. On my way out I stopped to see Dr. B.T.Galloway. He was just leaving and together we walked across the grounds. He looked older than when I last saw him and not very strong. He seemed much pleased to see me.

At the house wife had prepared a nice fish dinner. Otis ate very little, from which I inferred that he had lunched heartily in the pantry during the afternoon.

Saturday, 28 June, Washington; clear and hot. At the office busy with correspondence. Had visit from Mr. Geldenhuys, Under Secretary of Agriculture at Pretoria. He remembered my visit in 1928 and was much interested in the progress of the world agricultural census, in the relations of the United States government to the International Institute of Agriculture, and in the coming Inter American Conference on Agriculture. I arranged for an appointment with Mr. Warburton and introduced him to Mr. Olsen.

At the house I cleaned up the car and packed up a few things to take with me to Sunny Hill. I had asked wife the evening before and again in the morning if she would go with me to Sunny Hill, but she declined curtly without assigning any reason. Now she wanted to know if I intended to take Otis with me. I said no, not unless she went, because it would mean that we would have to sleep at Sunny Hill and I did not propose to make the bed and wait on Otis who was quite old enough to wait on himself, nor did I think it right to take him to Winworth and ask Sister Nellie to cook for him; also

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4202

I thought it was her duty to go with me occasionally. Otis, who had been hanging around in the background and probably overheard what I said, disappeared quickly.

I had a pleasant drive out, although the sun and wind were hot. All the wheat was in the shock and the corn was growing rapidly. In Frederick I bought a watermelon for mother and sister. We had a nice chicken dinner and hot biscuits. I took mother and sister into Frederick to see a picture show. The town was crowded with automobiles and pedestrians as usual on Saturday evenings. On returning we sat on the veranda and I smoked and sipped homemade wine until bed time.

Sunday, 29 June, Sunny Hill; clear and hot. At Sunny Hill all vegetation showed the effects of the long drouth. The oats had been cut and sudan grass and cowpeas had been sown in several fields. The hemerocalis and Shasta daisies were doing well and made a fine display. Sister Nellie had supplied the Francis Scott Key hotel with flowers daily and the bill for the month was about fifty dollars. I spent about an hour with a sickle cutting weeds and briars along the driveway. I felt tired and took a nap afterwards. At Winworth Sister Nellie served a nice dinner. Shortly afterwards Mr. Hershey, manager of the Scott Key Hotel, and his wife drove out. They talked birds and botany. They were nice people and we enjoyed their visit. Thelma and Mr. Price also came out in the afternoon.

I left at 4 p.m. and reached home at 6. After Thelma and Mr. Price came we had ice cream. Otis was grumpy because Mr. Price had not called for him and taken him out to Winworth. Mr. Price said that until Otis stopped being so sulky and ugly he saw no reason why he should look after him.

Monday, 30 June, Washington; clear and hot. At 10 a.m. I met bureau representatives in the conference room and discussed the

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4203

proposed departmental exhibits in connection with the conference. I had a visit from Mr. Hight, president of the New Willard Company, who offered to make a reduction of twenty-five per cent in the regular rates and the use of the assembly rooms for the conference. I asked him to submit his proposal in writing. Received Spanish and Portuguese copies of the agenda. ^P I ~~tk~~ talked with Mr. Reese, Chief Clerk, over the telephone about space for the exhibits. He suggested that I see Mr. Stockberger, the business manager of the Department. I did so. I had known Mr. Stockberger for many years when he was working on drug plants in the Bureau of Plant Industry and we had always been friends. He was looking much older, tired, and haggard. He kept me waiting outside his office for twenty minutes without any apparent reason. When I greeted him as an old friend he announced stiffly and coldly that he ~~wa~~ was in charge of all the buildings and space in the Department and was much surprised that I had gone ahead with a plan to install exhibits in the court of the new administration building without first consulting him. Clearly he was offended. He said further that he had already signed contracts for the installation in the court of some decorative urns and ^P pedestals. I said quietly that of course he knew that I was acting under instructions of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Director of Scientific Work and that both had approved the plan for conference exhibits that I had submitted to them and that plan would not be changed. Then I mollified him by saying that I had consulted several times with Mr. Reese, the chief clerk, who up until the time I went abroad was officially in charge of departmental space and I had naturally supposed that ~~that~~ ^{what} was all that was necessary. Since my return from abroad no one had so much as hinted that there had been any change in the control of space and that I was chagrined that

(1930, June, Washington)

E--4204

I had remained in ignorance so long of the change that had been made and of his responsibility for space, otherwise I would have consulted him as a matter of course. Mr. Stockberger gradually cooled down and admitted that the matter could be adjusted and, finally, that he would be glad to cooperate.

At the house Eunice came in to say that the beauty parlor where she had been working for a small salary and experience had closed and the proprietor had disappeared.

Dr. Wiley died yesterday. I had known him for many years and regretted his passing.

I On the way home I was hailed by Mr. Wrightsman. We had served as stenographers together in the War Department more than thirty years previously and I had not seen him since 1903. He was of the subservient yes-man type and when I knew him he was obsessed with the idea that he could write music. He had a quiet little Quaker wife and a baby boy. He said the wife was now an invalid and the baby was a chemist in the employ of the DuPont Company.

Tuesday, 1 July, Washington; cloudy, hot and sultry. Sent a supply of the Spanish and Portuguese copies of the agenda to the Secretary of State for distribution to the Latin American governments. Had a conference at the Pan American Union with Messrs. Rowe, Gil Borges, and Manger. Dr. Rowe was greatly concerned at the possibility of ~~any~~ delay, the appropriation not yet having been made. He called up Mr. Pendergast at the State Department and urged upon him the desirability of transmitting the programs immediately to the diplomatic representatives of the various governments and to forward instructions to the diplomatic representatives of the United States in those countries to follow up the

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4205

invitations with discreet inquiries as to the appointment of delegates. Also he urged me to get an authorization immediately to incur expenses and proceed to the appointment of assistants.

After luncheon I telephoned Mr. Pendergast about the authorization and he advised a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture to the Secretary of State and he would see that the authorization was issued without delay. I dictated such a letter and then went to the Pan American Union to show Dr. M. Gil Borges the manuscript and index I had arranged for printing the English edition of the Documentary Material. He seemed greatly pleased with it. On returning to the Department I had the letter to the Secretary of State signed.

After supper Eunice came in to say that she expected to go to work in the beauty parlor at one of the department stores. She looked tired. Said she had been all over town looking for work.

Wednesday, 2 July, Washington; fair and cooler. Dictated letters to a selected list of hotels in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, asking for rates and discounts for delegates to our conference. Did the same with steamship companies having lines between New York and the Central and South American countries. Dictated a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury asking exemption from customs examination of official delegates from other countries. Visited the Civil Service Commission and explained the temporary nature of the clerical work of the conference and got an opinion as to how appointments should be made and the promise of a list of eligibles. Stopped at the Pan American and talked with Dr. Manger about the organization of the conference. At the office Dr. Woods called up and said he had been asked to prepare an article on the conference for the Standards Monthly and he wanted to know if I would write it for him; also the editor of the same magazine wanted an article from me on standardization of statistics by the International Institute at Rome,

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4206

both to be ready by the fifteenth of the month. I promised.

Thursday, 3 July, Washington; clear and cool. Spent the day drafting letters and the two articles for the Standards Monthly. Was interviewed by a representative of the United Press and had several calls by telephone for information regarding the conference. Had a call from Mr. Eaton, business promotion manager for the Mayflower Hotel regarding hotel rates for delegates. Incidentally he said that the Mayflower Hotel cost thirteen million dollars, that it lost seventy-five to eighty thousand dollars during the summer months, ~~and~~ that it spent forty thousand a year on promotion work, and that the American Trust Company was buying up a chain of hotels, had bought two within the last week, one at Virginia Beach and the other at Altoona, Pennsylvania.

I was planning to go to Sunny Hill the next day and for the first time since my return wife consented to go with me and spend the night there. When I found that she was planning to take not only Otis but Thelma and Mr. Price, and the baby, I objected because of lack of room in the Cricket House, which had only one room and a small attic, clearly insufficient for six people. She said that Otis could occupy the little bath room. To this I objected because I thought the bathroom and toilet should be kept free and accessible to the family. I told her that I had already removed the cot and other furniture I found in the bathroom to the Whippoorwill, another stone cabin not finished inside, and that Otis would have to sleep in the attick of the Cricket House or in the Whippoorwill. some distance away. She said she could not think of Otis sleeping in a house separate from us--he was too young--nearly eighteen and over six feet tall.

Friday, 4 July, Washington; clear and pleasant. After breakfast Otis left promptly to go with Thelma and Mr. Price. Wife and

Monday, 7 July, Washington; clear and hot. At the office dictated two articles for the Standards Monthly and a letter transmitting to the State Department the manuscript of the "Documentary Material" to be forwarded to the Government Printing Office. To avoid delay I took the letter and manuscript in person to Mr. Pendergast at the State Department. Had a letter from the Secretary of State approving the composition of the American Delegation, and letters from a number of hotels and steamship lines.

Tuesday, 8 July, Washington; clear and hot. Spent the day drafting a booklet of information for the delegates to the conference. Telephoned various bureaus for photographs to illustrate the booklet.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon was a party of county agents on a bus trip to Washington and back by way of Cumberland, Pittsburg, Minneapolis and points west.

On the way home I was joined by Mr. Leudtke who expected to be appointed as agricultural attache and stationed at Buenos Aires. He asked many questions about Argentina and I took him home with me to look at my collection of books from Argentina.

Wednesday, 9 July, Washington; clear and excessively hot. Wife and I had a bad night because of the heat. ^aHad a busy day at the office. Dictated the material for the information booklet. Had an interview with Mr. Sweinhart, our press agent. He had discovered that our agricultural conference would be the 100th conference between the American States since the first one in 1826. He made a good story out of it. We agreed on his official appointment to begin on July 20 and run for two months at \$250 a month, so that he would get the \$500 he had bargained for. Two visitors came over from the Pan American Union, both applicants for positions, one a young Peruvian who had served in the American Navy,

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4210

the other an attractive young lady of twenty who said her father was Scotch and her mother American, and that she had lived most of her life in Brazil and had served as secretary to the U.S. Consul at São Paulo. Then the manager of the Hamilton Hotel called to submit his terms for attracting delegates.

Had luncheon at the Cornell Restaurant and saw Mr. Callander and some of the old field agents.

After luncheon I went out to the Government Printing Office to see about the printing of the English edition of "Documentary Material" but the manuscript could not be found. By telephoning I found that the manuscript had not yet left the State Department, although the clerk there^e had promised to forward it immediately. I went to the State Department where I was told that a printing requisition could not be drawn until the accountant of the State Department received official notice from the Treasury Department that the special appropriation for the conference was available. I was extremely impatient and suggested that in view of the fact that the Congress of the United States had passed the appropriation the accounting was simply a matter of routine, but the printing of this material was of urgent importance to the success of the conference and the time in which to get it printed was barely sufficient, and ~~te~~ therefore it should be transmitted at once and by special messenger so that the printing office could get to work on it, and let the accounting departments take their time for their routine work of opening an account with the appropriation. This was promised.

Then I called at the Tropical Research Foundation where a bibliography of tropical literature was in course of preparation and learned that it had been turned over to reviewers in the Department library. I called on the librarian who got the manuscript to show me and promised to have it revised with the least possible

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4211

delay. Miss Barnett, the librarian, expressed herself as very grateful to me because she had just run across some old correspondence and a report of a committee of which I was chairman that had prevented the consolidation of the library with the information office, which she felt would have been a disaster, and that I had saved the library.

On leaving the office I met Mr. Bauer, formerly with the statistical division of the Institute and then an employe of the Gianini Foundation in California. His new wife joined us and they seemed very happy together. They had made the trip from California by water. He said that in the postoffice at Panama he had noticed a large placard referring to the agricultural census.

Thursday, 10 July, Washington; clear and hot. Wrote some letters, accepted Mr. Galt's offer to serve as shorthand reporter for the conference, and corrected the manuscript for the information booklet. Had a long visit from Mr. Bauer of the Gianini Foundation who said he was studying government aid to agriculture in all countries. In the afternoon Mr. Leudtke came in for a long talk about Argentina. *P* Also had a call from a young man who was contemplating going to South America because he thought opportunities would be better there than in the United States. When I found that he had never studied either Spanish or Portuguese and had no capital or special training I strongly advised against going to South America. I asked him to consider what he would do without money, or a knowledge of the language, or special training, in competition with hundreds and hundreds of bright, intelligent young men of good family, speaking their own language, educated in the best universities, and knowing their own country and people, and something besides of other countries--how awkward and helpless he would be. The young man was much

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4212

impressed and said he had never thought of his project in that light.

Saturday, 12 July, Washington; clear and not so hot. Writing letters, revising budget, and telephoned the Government Printing Office asking for an estimate of the cost of printing the Information Booklet.

(Lubin, 12 July, Washington, salmon folder)

Extract from letter of July 12, 1930, to Mr. Simon J. Lubin,
President, Sacramento Region Citizens Council,
Sacramento, California:

x x x x

"I envy you the freedom you have in the preparatory work for your conference. At times I am almost distracted with official delays and restrictions that are beyond the control of any individual. Although the agricultural conference was recommended by the Havana Pan American Congress as early as February, 1928, more than two years elapsed before our Congress authorized it on April 14, 1930. Weeks went by before the State Department sent out invitations and we have not yet received replies from the various countries as to number and names of delegates. It is unlawful to incur any financial obligations prior to an appropriation by Congress, and the appropriation for the conference did not pass until the evening of July 3. Then three days holiday intervened. Manuscript was rushed to the State Department for requisition on the Government Printing Office. State Department cannot act because the Treasury warrant for the appropriation not yet received by accountant of State Department. Authorization in my favor to proceed to employ personnel and purchase stationery supplies held up for same reason. Meanwhile the days are slipping by and nothing done. However, my preparations are all made so that the moment I am free to act things will begin to move. As soon as programs are printed and names of Latin American delegates are known I will send copies to you.

x x x x

At the office I dictated letters to prospective employees and began drafting a report on the status of the preparatory work. A number of applicants for positions called in person. Dr. Rowe called up to tell me that the State Department had telephoned our diplomatic representatives in the Latin American countries regarding the conference.

At the house wife very stiff and formal. I noted that she had been busy setting the house in order and that a ^{new} rug that had been rolled up and lying to one side in the dining room ^{for several weeks} was now in place.

Tuesday, 15 July, Washington; clear and cool. Did a lot of telephoning at the office. In the forenoon Mr. Southgate of the State Department called up to tell me that the officials of the Department of Commerce were clamoring for invitations to the conference. I replied that our conference would relate strictly to

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4219

agriculture, technical agriculture, that the Department of Commerce had no real interest in the matter more than some other departments of the government, and that the chiefs and specialists of its commodity divisions had all been invited, and I reminded him that an Inter American Conference on Commerce was to be held the following year and it was a sure thing that the Department of Commerce would not think of inviting the officials of the Department of Agriculture to participate. Mr. Southgate said he would have to look into the matter further. Dictated a long ~~matix~~ memorandum on the status of the preparatory work of the conference and sent a copy to Dr. Woods and Dr. Rowe.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Mr. Marquis reported on his recent trip through the drouth stricken areas of Ohio and Indiana and the reception that was accorded Secretary Hyde and Mr. Legge of the Farm Board. Then there was a report by Mr. Holman, secretary of the National Council of Cooperatives. He had accompanied a group of editors into Canada as far as Hudson Bay and across to Prince Edward Island. He said the soil of that northern region is similar to that of Maryland and Virginia and fine crops are grown although the growing season is only five months and that Prince Edward Island is a duplicate of a portion of Denmark.

In the afternoon a messenger from the State Department delivered the official appointments of the members of the American Delegation and my appointment as secretary of the delegation.

Wednesday, 16 July, Washington; clear and cool. Transmitted the appoint^{ment}s to the members of the delegation. Several employees of the secretariat reported for duty to Dr. Manger at the Pan Ameri-

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4220

can Union and notified the State Department to issue the necessary appointments. Wrote letters to chiefs of bureaus regarding the exhibits. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club and stopp~~ed~~ at the State Department to interview the accounting officer and the chief clerk ~~re~~ regarding the method of incurring expenses and obtaining supplies.

At the house I asked wife ~~is~~ if she cared to go to a picture show and received a flat "No" as an answer. After supper I tried to do some writing in my den but found it difficult because Miss Jenkins was sitting outside and giving ^{an account of} her pedigree, life history, and misfortunes to a new female boarder next door. Eunice called for a few minutes to say that she had been searching diligently for employment without success.

Thursday, 17 July, Washington; cloudy and warmer. Spent the forenoon receiving and interviewing applicants for employment in the secretariat. Most of them were very peculiar in some respects and I suspected there was a reason why they were out of employment. One, a large man with bushy hair and a twitching mouth, said that he was known as the "Scientific Ant" because he had specialized on so many different sciences, but his real profession was human and animal anatomy. He claimed to be able to translate all modern languages, to write shorthand, and knew ~~about~~ all there was to be known about all animals except cats. Another applicant with the complexion of an Indian said he was born in Syria and brought to this country when he was six months old and had no office experience but had taken a correspondence course in a business college. A middle aged Austrian wanted \$250 a month for translating one or all modern languages.

After luncheon I dictated some letters and then walked over to the Pan American building and asked Dr. Manger to help prepare a list of the stationery supplies that would be needed for the conference.

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4221

I walked home as usual because of the congestion just after the departments closed making it almost impossible to get a seat in a street car or get through the traffic in a taxi without many delays.

Friday, 18 July, Washington; clear and very hot. On the way to the office I stopped at a jeweler's to have a ring that I had given Thelma repaired. She had broken the setting and wished to have a red stone I had bought at Rangoon substituted.

I stopped at the Pan American building to check the list of supplies and furniture needed. More applicants for employment called. One that I later did employ was a good natured gentleman from Georgia, a graduate of the University of Macon with degrees of B.A. and LL.B., with four years experience in Havana in the office of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, who said he was preparing to take an examination for the Consular Service. He wanted employment of any kind at any salary, but unfortunately he was not a stenographer. In the afternoon an attache of the Mexican embassy called and wanted employment as a translator. I dictated a letter to the State Department listing the supplies to be ordered; also a form of letterhead to be used by the secretariat, and carried them to the State Department personally to avoid delay. A professional photographer called and wanted the exclusive privilege of photographing the conference. At the house I met by appointment a young man employed in the Coast and Geodetic Survey who wanted to be transferred to the secretariat. He was so obviously dumb that I advised him to hang onto the job he had and be thankful he had one. The drouth still continued and the papers reported cities and towns of Maryland that would have to go on half rations for water.

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4222

Saturday, 19 July, Washington; clear and very hot. Papers reported that the nine months drouth extended from the Atlantic coast into Ohio and Indiana.

At the office had an interview with the manager of a bus line. Dictated some letters and worked on a list of personnel and salaries in relation to the budget.

At the house wife refused to accompany me to Sunny Hill. I left at 2.30 p.m. and drove to Winworth. A strong wind came from the southwest as hot as if it came from an oven. All vegetation suffering for rain. Corn tasseling out waist high and leaves curled. I stopped in Frederick long enough to buy a large watermelon that had been on ice. We cut it in the evening and it was just right, fully ripe but firm, rich red and very sweet. The horses were standing in the lane that led to the spring switching their tails vigorously to keep the flies away. The lights of Frederick were very pretty after dark. I occupied an upper room and had a bottle of homemade wine, smokes, and a book to read, all of which was very pleasant.

Sunday, 20 July, Sunny Hill; clear with strong hot wind. Finished reading Kipling's "The Light That Failed" last night at a late hour. Hearing the sound of voices downstairs I got up at 6 a.m. We had pancakes and fried ham for breakfast. After breakfast sister and I went up to Sunny Hill for some flowers for the hotel. All vegetation suffering from heat and lack of rain. The shrubs on the place and in the woods were wilting. Returned to Winworth and sat in a rocking chair under the big oak tree. The wind blowing through its immense top was like music. Many birds were twittering in the shrubbery. A rabbit came out of the shrubbery and looked about. He stopped to scratch his chin and behind his ears with one of his hind feet and was as deft and skillfull about it as a

(1930, July, Sunny Hill)

E--4223

person with his hand. Last night the whippoorwills were calling and this morning the quail were whistling. At Sunny Hill the locusts were beginning their summer song. Many fires were reported in the mountain woodlands. Began reading Kipling's "City of the Dreadful Night." I took mother for a drive to Braddock Heights, Middletown, and south through the valley nearly to Harper's Ferry and back by way of Jefferson and Feagaville. It was very hot and the crops were badly wilted. We had a nice fried chicken dinner.

I reached home at 6 o'clock. Shed my clothes that were wet with perspiration, had a bath, and felt better. The papers reported a temperature of 102 degrees in Washington the day before. Mr. Price and Thelma took supper with us. After supper Mr. Price took Otis in his car to the Union Station to meet a young lady--name or origin not mentioned. Lent Mr. Price ten dollars to see him through to the end of the month.

Monday, 21 July, Washington; clear and very hot. The Weather Bureau reported 106 degrees yesterday and again today.

At the office prepared a letter transmitting the manuscript of the "Information Booklet" to the State Department for printing requisition, the delay having been caused by the difficulty in getting suitable photographs for illustrations. At the Pan American Union I found four of the convention employees crowded into a narrow hall room with only one door and one window and insufficient light. I at once protested to Dr. Manger and he promised that better quarters would be furnished later. Approved a form of registration card that one of the employees had drawn up. Not much to do at my own office except receive a few applicants for positions. It was so hot that all departments in Washington except the Department of Agriculture were closed at noon.

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4224

At the office wrote a number of letters regarding the conference.
✓ Mr. Sweinhart brought in a sheaf of newspaper clippings to show for his activities as press agent. He outlined a scheme for publishing a Pan American Agricultural Weekly, which I discouraged because of the lack of purchasing power and limited number of readers in Latin

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4225

America. An agent of the Pennsylvania Railway called and asked for a list of the incoming Latin American delegates and probable dates of arrival. Telephoned the secretary of Dr. Gil Borges for the approximate amount the Pan American Union had advanced to translators that would have to come out of the conference allotment of funds. In talking by telephone with Mr. Southgate of the State Department he suggested that in addition to my designation as secretary of the American delegation I should be designated as a member also in order to have the same rank and privileges as other delegates. Upon this advice I drafted the necessary letter of recommendation. I took the manuscript of the "Information Booklet" to the editorial clerk of the State Department who promised to have its printing expedited.

Wednesday, 23 July, Washington; clear and very hot. At the office had a visit from Mr. Hermann, the Austrian who had applied for a position as translator. I told him that our translation work was being handled by the Pan American Union and that what I most needed was a stenographic secretary. He surprised me by saying that he had had experience of that kind, and proved it by exhibiting letters of recommendation from former employers, the last being from the chief clerk of the National Research Council. He said that he preferred translating work but that times were hard and work difficult to find and he would be glad to accept a temporary position as my secretary. I agreed to take him on trial. A thousand copies of a brief form of program were delivered and I immediately dictated letters transmitting copies to the delegates. The Library sent up the revised copy of the manuscript of the bibliography of tropical agriculture. It was so interlined with corrections as to be difficult to decipher, so I took it over to the Pan American Union and started my small force to making a clean copy for the printer. Had many telephone calls to answer. In the afternoon I called on Dr. Klein,

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4226

Assistant Secretary of Commerce, and asked him to send me a list of the people in the Department of Commerce he thought should be invited to attend the conference, which he agreed to do.

At the house Thelma was consulting wife about the dress she was trying to make. Otis came down to show me the rating he had received on the only correspondence lesson he had completed in two weeks. Then with much hesitation he asked for the loan of the sedan the following day so that he could take his young lady friend that was visiting Washington from where she was staying on Wisconsin Avenue to the National Museum and back. I said I would want to think it over because I remembered that ^{formerly} he had the car out every day and I had not forgotten the Sunday he took it out to go to the speedway park and back and instead had gone out to Sunny Hill and then said he had spent the day in Rock Creek Park. He acknowledged that what I said was true but if I would let him have the car just this one time he would be very careful of it. I agreed to let him have it if he would keep his promise.

Thursday, 24 July, Washington; very hot. No wonder Washington is considered by those who ought to know as one of the hottest places on earth. The drouth extended over several of the eastern states and crops and livestock were suffering severely.

Had a visit from the agricultural attache of Mexico regarding a request he had received from the Cornell College of Agriculture that he prepare a paper for the coming International Conference of Economists. He knew Sr. Ballesteros, the Mexican delegate to the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. I encouraged him to accept the invitation of Cornell as a compliment to both him and his country and an opportunity to represent his country creditably before an international gathering of distinguished men. Had a visit by a pretty little woman, Miss Stone, whose sister was employed

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4227

in the Pan American Union. She said she was born in Cuba and could do stenographic and typing work. I called on Dr. Woods and then went up on the third floor to inspect the room reserved for me in the new administration building. It was a small inside room with one window, and in it were a desk, a chair, and a filing cabinet. In the afternoon I began drafting a speech for the Secretary of Agriculture to be delivered at the opening of the conference. Dr. Woods called up and asked me to see the editor^{ess} of the Pan American Union about an article she wanted on Cooperation.

On reaching home I gave Thelma the ring with the new setting in it and she was greatly pleased. Otis came in at 6 o'clock and said he had something to show me. The trunk attached to the rear of the sedan had been crushed in. He said a car with a lady driver had bumped into it and that he had pulled off to one side thinking she would do the same, but she had driven straight on and he had failed to get her license number. I was provoked at having a classy new trunk on a new car battered in but said nothing more than to ask a few questions. Early that morning I had made a memorandum of the mileage registered by the speedometer and the quantity of gasoline in the tank. On checking up in the evening I found that the speedometer showed a mileage of forty-five and that two and a half gallons had been used, to go ~~and~~ from Wisconsin Avenue to the National Museum and return, a distance of about six miles. Otis volunteered no information about the accident or where or how it occurred. Such information as I got out of him was by questioning. I was quite sure that he was deceiving me, but I deemed it useless to pursue the matter. However, I said no word of blame and did not refer to the accident again. In fact, I regarded it as a fortunate accident because I surmised that I would not be embarr-

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4228

rassed with frequent requests for the car in future.

Friday, 25 July, Washington; very hot. Otis asked permission to take the sedan up to the private garage where Mr. Price worked to try to repair the broken trunk, but I declined.

I stopped at the little office in the Pan American Union and found that the bibliography had been copied and was ready to be mimeographed. I ~~sw~~ saw Dr. Manger about the advisability of inviting the delegates to the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Conference to attend the agricultural conference. Then I saw the editress of the Pan American Bulletin who said that Dr. Rowe wanted an inspirational article on cooperation for the October Bulletin and the manuscript should be ready by August 5. Had several visitors at the office, including applicants for positions. One was a woman who said she had lived with her husband in Mexico for six years. She was of the thin, haavily painted, flapper type and about as attractive as a lizard.

Had luncheon with Dr. Woods at the Cornell. I walked to the office of the General Supply Committee to see about furniture and was told to visit the warehouse in the northern part of the city and select~~ed~~ what I thought would be suitable. I telephoned my stenographer at the Pan American office to take the list we had prepared and go~~x~~ out to the warehouse and see if he could get something that would answer our purpose. Finished drafting the opening speech to be made by the Secretary of Agriculture. Starting drafting an article on cooperation.

The heat was ^{so} oppressive that I felt exhausted after my walk home. Wife had prepared a nice supper and appeared to be in a fairly good humor, probably because I had not censured Otis for the accident to the sedan. Wrote to the gas company protesting a bill larger than that for the previous month, although the meter had been closed and the meter shut off.

(1942 1930, July, Washington)

E--4229

closed and we had used electricity instead. It was one time when I felt justified in being sarcastic.

Saturday, 26 July, Washington; clear with sizzling hot wind. Charlie and Eunice took breakfast with us.

Did some telephoning at the office. Learned that the appointments I had requested had been issued and instructed the office force to go up to the State Department and take the required oath of office. Mr. Reese telephoned that my room on the third floor of the administrative building was equipped with a telephone and I could move in. I arranged with the business manager of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to have my records and materials transferred to the new quarters the following Monday.

At the house I found wife and George struggling with the rugs. George had done a lot of cleaning up. I left about 2.30 p.m. and had an enjoyable but hot ride out to the farm. Crops en route were burnt up. Brought out an iced watermelon from Frederick which we enjoyed at Winworth. With the help of the hired man I repaired the damage to the sedan trunk with some metal strips and little bolts. After painting over the numerous cracks with black enamel it did not look bad. We had a nice chicken supper and then I took mother and sister to Frederick to do some shopping. After ~~supper~~ returning we sat on the veranda and watched the lights come out over the valley. The vegetation showed the effects of the drouth at Winworth more than ever. Sister reported that on four and a half acres she harvested 77 bushels of wheat; mother got 110 bushels on five acres; the wheat sold for eighty cents a bushel; and to harvest and thresh this quantity she had to get breakfast and dinner for seven hungry men.

Sunday, 27 July, Sunny Hill; hot sun and wind. Grass was withered and many of the trees and shrubs seemed to be dying for want of water. I got up late and had breakfast^s with mother. Sister had gone

(1930, July, Sunny Hill)

E--4230

to Sunny Hill to get flowers for the hotel. She was having difficulty in finding enough to keep the hotel supplied. After breakfast I drove up. Grass was brown as if it had been seared, shrubs and trees were ~~drooping~~ shedding their leaves, and flowers looked sick. There was no water at Sunny Hill. On the way back I stopped to inspect the springs in the woods. The upper spring was dry. The lower spring was still running clear and strong. The small stream below the springs was nearly dry and the the places that were still wet were a number of terrapins. I picked an armfull of ferns for sister. Had a nice luncheon, read awhile, took a short nap, and then we finished the watermelon. Had a hot ride back to Washington.

Monday, 28 July, Washington; Papers full of accounts of the "unprecedented heatm" At the office I found Mr.Hermann, my newly appointed stenographic secretary. At 9.30 a.m. messengers with a hand truck called for my papers and we moved to the ~~new~~ room assigned to me in the new administration building. I saw Mr.Reese at once and arranged to have him supply us with an electric fan, a hat rack, a cuspidor, and three more chairs. As soon as these came Mr.Hermann and I hastily filed the correspondence and papers and were soon ready for business. I dictated several letters and worked on the cooperation article. I took Mr.Hermann to luncheon with me in order to get acquainted. I found he had no money, so I paid.To relieve his embarrassment I assured him he was my guest. He seemed to be well educated, well read, and had travelled.

Tuesday, 29 July, Washington; another hot day--worse than the tropics. Stopped at the Pan American office to lay out work for the clerks there. Sent a letter to the General Supply Office asking for the loan of certain furniture Mr.Ireland had picked out. The General Supply Office could not furnish a truck. Telephoned both the State and the Treasury Departments and both said they

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4231

had no trucks that could be spared. Finally Mr. Reese, chief clerk of the Department of Agriculture agreed to furnish a truck to transfer the borrowed furniture from the warehouse of the General Supply Office to the Pan American Union. Received proof of the Information Booklet, corrected and returned it by messenger to the Government Printing Office.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Mr. Brown, the free lance meteorological expert, gave an interesting talk on the causes of prolonged drouths. Among other things he said that the records show clearly that these extreme drouths occur periodically about 56 years apart, that there was one in 1818 and another in 1874. He predicted that the present drouth would probably end in August at which time there was likely to be a West Indian hurricane.

Wednesday, 30 July, Washington; clear and hot, tempered by a breeze. Prepared the first pay roll voucher for the conference employees and sent it to the State Department. Drafted a number of letters. Dr. L. C. Corbett called to see about displaying models of tropical fruits, vegetables, and field crops of American origin. Had several other visitors, including one press correspondent. I dictated some notes on cooperation and revised the copy. After luncheon I walked up town to a ten cent store and purchased some drinking glasses for the office.

At the house I found wife and Otis both silent and forbidding, without any apparent cause.

Thursday, 31 July, Washington; At the office mailed about eighty invitations to Latin American delegates. Had several visitors. Finished dictating article on cooperation and several letters. Found Mr. Hermann a little slow, probably from lack of practice, but very careful and accurate. He had trouble with the spelling of some English words, but in this I was tolerant because of my own difficulty in

(1930, July, Washington)

E--4232

spelling French and Spanish words. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Dr. Woods and Mr. Rommel, Industrial Commissioner at Savannah. Mr. Rommel spoke of the rapid growth of pine trees on cut over lands and the possibilities of the turpentine and pulpwood industries. I stepped into a place on 14th Street above H where a sale of sporting goods had been under way for several weeks. The place was as full of goods and as empty of customers as when I first noticed it.

Wife and I went out for supper and she acted almost normal. Eunice called in the evening; also Miss Jenkins.

Friday, 1 August, Washington; clear and not so hot. Stopped at the Pan American office. Received appointments for the translators and made up a payroll for them. Mailing out invitations to presidents of agricultural colleges. Took a taxi to the Government Printing Office and was assured that the Information Booklet would be ready by Monday, proof of the Documentary Material about the 15th of the month, and delivery about the first of September. Finished dictating speech of welcome for use of Secretary of Agriculture. Had luncheon with Dr. Woods. Met Mr. E. V. Wilcox on the street.

Saturday, 2 August, Washington; clear and hot. Took some of my snapshot films ~~tk~~ taken in Argentina to the photographic laboratory to have enlarged prints made for use with the article on Co-operation in the Pan American Bulletin.

Had luncheon at the house and then drove out to Winworth. Wheat stubble dry as a road and corn firing up. Bought a large watermelon in Frederick. After supper sister and I inspected her corn field and walked on down to the spring back of her place. Thinking that corn would rise in price because of the drouth east of the Mississippi I asked sister to order 100 bushels at the current price of \$1.10 a bushel. Also asked her to telephone for a well digger to come over

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4233

the next day. We sat on the veranda quite late listening to the crickets and katydids.

Sunday, 3 August, Sunny Hill; clear and very hot. About 9 a.m. the well digger from Jefferson came and together we went up to Sunny Hill. There was a bored well on the place that had been dry for several years. My idea was to bore it deeper. The digger let a rope down and much to our surprise found twenty-four feet of water in it. He agreed to clean it out during the coming week. He advised against trying to deepen it. I suggested that if the bored well failed to flow after it was cleaned and could not be deepened, then I would have the large dug well next to the house cemented up and use it for a cistern.

Had a nice chicken dinner at Winworth. About 3 p.m. Mr. Price brought out Thelma, the baby, and Otis. Mrs. Baker, wife of the banker in Frederick, called up to ask if I would address the garden club. I agreed if the date could be set after September 20 when the agricultural conference would adjourn. I reached home at 6 o'clock and had a bath and a change of clothing. Found a note from wife saying she had gone out with the Johnstons.

Monday, 4 August, Washington; clear and very hot. Very busy at the office with telephone calls and visitors. Arranged with the chief clerk for a truck to move some furniture to the Pan American office the following day. Had a telephone message from the accounting officer of the State Department saying that one of the Spanish translators was there demanding pay for two months although his appointment was dated only one month previously. I asked that he be referred to me. Had luncheon with Dr. Woods and Mr. Cates. Walked across to the Pan American office at 3 p.m. and found it closed, but I gained entrance at a rear basement door. A few of the employees were still working. I delivered the manuscript on cooperation. Had a

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4234

long interview with Dr. Gil Borges and Dr. Manger and got away at 5 p.m. ~~At the house Otis was sulky and wife silent.~~

Tuesday, 5 August, Washington; clear and hot. Daily temperatures running about 100 degrees. Many of the departments, including the Pan American Union closed in the afternoons because of the great heat.

I spent most of the day looking up addresses to which to send copies of the Information Booklet which had been delivered and looked quite neat and attractive. I took five copies down and laid on Dr. Woods' desk. He was absorbed in something he was reading and did not look up. Usually his face lights up with a friendly smile when any one enters, but on rare occasions his face was like a mask and he would look at one with no sign of recognition.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Chester Gray gave an excellent description of conditions in the neighborhood of his wheat farm a hundred miles or more from Kansas City. He said the farmers were having a hard time but were philosophical about it and not blaming either the President or the Farm Board. Mr. Loomis had spent a vacation with a daughter in a small college town in eastern Tennessee and he described a grove of magnificent oak trees that were believed to be several hundred years old.

In the afternoon the Mexican agricultural attache called a second time to discuss the invitation he had received to address the economist gathering at Cornell.

~~Wife and I went out for supper. She was still very taciturn and would rarely speak to me.~~

Wednesday, 6 August, Washington; clear and hot. Spent the forenoon drafting letters. As I was finishing luncheon at the Cosmos Club Dr. Durand and Dr. ^{Stine}~~Stein~~ came to my table. Mr. Hobson sat

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4235

at a nearby table. At the office I called up Mr. Montgomery and asked why his name was not included in the list of Department of Commerce people to be invited to attend the agricultural conference as furnished by Dr. Klein. He said that the Secretary of Commerce had recommended to the Secretary of State another list in which his name was included. This struck me as rather curious procedure and wholly unnecessary. Sent out a number of invitations and Information Booklets.

~~Had supper at a restaurant and tried to break my wife's gloomy silence, but without success. In the morning she had hinted that she needed more money, but as I had given her sixty-five dollars for groceries within the last week and she had only three people to feed I ignored the hint. I suggested to Otis that he should buckle down to his correspondence course and try to complete at least one lesson a day. I asked him how much time he had put on the lesson the previous day. He said he did not know. I suggested that no one would pay him anything for lying in bed, or for reading novels and penny papers, but if he would work like other young men of his age he could earn some real money. Both he and wife listened to these suggestions in sullen silence.~~

Thursday, 7 August, Washington; clear and hot. Moved our principal files to the little office in the Pan American Building. We were much crowded in the new quarters but the time had come when ~~that~~ I should be with my small force in order to keep them busy and learn what each could do. Had an interview with the accountant of the State Department who said that the Comptroller of the Treasury had held that no one could be transported at government expense by bus or taxi in the District of Columbia, and therefore if I was contemplating transporting delegates by bus it would have to be to points outside the District; also that formal appointments would

(1930, August, Washington)

E--4236

not be required for translators and reporters. I also talked with the ^e~~x~~ auditor for the State Department who said that I could have printing done at government expense only if it were done at the Government Printing Office. I spent the rest of the afternoon arranging files and materials at the Pan American office.

Had a letter from mother saying that the well digger had cleaned out the bored well at Sunny Hill, but no more water came into it. After supper I sorted out a collection of phonograph records. Otis had acquired a collection of about fifty, all of the same general character, "Hots," "Sweets," and "Love Nests." I found some of my Spanish records broken or badly scratched.

Friday, 8 August, Washington; very hot; 102 degrees in the shade. Writing letters and had some of the office force cutting stencils.

Saturday, 9 August, Washington; nothing but hot. A Mexican translator called about his pay and seemed to be desperate. The trouble arose because the translators had been given papers to translate long before the appropriation was available by the Pan American Union ^x at so much per page^x. The Civil Service Commission, the Comptroller of the Treasury Department, and the State Department, required that payment should be made by the day and that the translators should have a regular appointment specifying the rate of compensation per day. Also there was a law prohibiting employment or payment before an appropriation was made available by Congress. The appropriation for the conference was not passed until July 3. Much of the translating work had been done by authority of the Pan American Union officials long before that date. The only way to square matters was to have the translators appointed as soon as their names were reported to me and then convert the number of pages they had done

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4237

at so much per page into an equivalent amount, so many days at so much a day. ~~This meant that~~ The per diem rate, under the regulations had to be the same for the same kind of work. This meant that some of the appointments ran for twenty days, some forty days, and some sixty days or more, depending on the number of pages the employe had translated. It also meant that these employes would have to take their pay by instalments fifteen days apart beginning with the date of their appointments until sufficient time had elapsed for them to have put in the calculated number of days. Of course, the whole system was utterly foolish, but so read the law, the regulations, and the decisions of the accounting officers of the Treasury, every one of which we, that is, the officials of the Pan American Union, myself, and the translators, were deliberately violating. I did not like to do it, but could see no other way out. ~~and~~ The work had to be done and there was not time to do it if we waited to begin until after the appropriation was passed by Congress. All had been arranged; the compensation on a page basis had been converted into compensation on a day basis; the appointments had been duly issued, the appointees had taken the required oath of office, and they had received the first instalment of their pay. But here was one who had earned the equivalent of two months pay and had expected to receive it in a lump sum. Only a month had elapsed. It would have been fatal to try to explain the situation to the accounting officials. I found it almost impossible to explain the rather complicated situation to this Mexican translator who seemed to think that because he was not paid the full amount due him at once that there was some sort of graft involved and that all that he would ever get was that initial payment on a day basis. He was almost hysterical and threatened to become violent. I had sympathized with his plight and had patiently and kindly tried to

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4238

make it clear to him that he would have to be patient and that he would be paid an instalment every fifteen days under his appointment until he was fully paid. But when he became abusive and threatening I lost patience and turned on him. I accused him of having done inferior and unsatisfactory work; of having still some pages to complete of the last manuscript turned over to him; of having demanded his pay in lump sum from the Pan American Union officials; of having gone to the accounting office of the State Department with the same demand; of having then gone to the Treasury Department---all of which was true. I told him that if he did that again or if he were not willing to accept payment as all the other translators were doing I would at once cancel his appointment and he would get nothing at all. I and everybody else was tired of his foolishness and that never before had he been paid promptly by his own government or by the Mexican embassy in Washington, and never before had he been paid so liberally, but not another dollar should he receive unless he calmed down and conformed to our regulations and laws. Then I said ^athat I expected him to apologize to me right then and there for the statements he had made to me. I said all this in Spanish. He did quiet down and he did apologize and we had no further trouble with him.

After luncheon I drove up to Winworth, taking with me the book entitled "All Quiet on the Western Front," which I read that evening.

Sunday, 10 August, Sunny Hill; hot. At Sunny Hill everything seared and brown from the heat. I measured the corn crib for wire netting as protection against rats and mice. I stopped at the lower place and estimated that the corn field might yield five bushels of nubbins per acre. The Sudan grass seed sown six weeks previously had just begun to germinate. All but one of the springs had dried up. ^aHad the usual Sunday chicken dinner at Winworth and reached home

(1930, August, Washington)

E--4239

at 6 p.m. Wife silent and cold. "Well," I thought, "God bless our happy home."

Monday, 11 August, Washington; clear and somewhat cooler. Two electric fans that I had purchased were delivered, one for the sleeping room and one for my den. For weeks the heat had been almost unbearable.

At the office busy writing letters and asked for the appointment of half a dozen people for the secretariat. I walked across to the Department of Agriculture and stopped to talk with Dr. Woods. At the office I started to prepare a detailed program for the chairman of the conference, with names of leaders and others and their titles, and the hour and minute ~~for~~ for discussion to begin and end. Several young men called to apply for work with the conference. Little Miss Green, the Porto Rican, who had been recommended by Messrs. James and Pieters, was very young and inexperienced in office work. But she was young and attractive and wore thin loose garments, so that when she leaned over one's desk she displayed a pair of beautiful small breasts, which partly compensated for her girlish inefficiency with the male employees.

Tuesday, 12 August, Washington; clear and cool. Had many inquiries and telephone calls during the day, agents of hotels, railways, bus men, photographers, and applicants for positions. The Bureau of Entomology called up to say that because the department's photographic laboratory was preparing to move to new quarters it would be impossible to supply photographs for the exhibits in the court of the main building, and wanting to know what could be done about it. I assured the ^abureau that the photographs would be ready. Then I called up the photographer who began to make excuses. I cut him short, ^{by}saying that I did not want to hear any excuses; he should make them to the Secretary of Agriculture to whom I would report his

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4240

delinquency to ~~the Secretary~~, and unless he could promise me to get busy and finish all photographic work for the exhibits I would bring over an order signed by the Secretary that would be ~~made~~ mandatory, and he could just forget about moving until that special work for the Secretary was done, finished, delivered. The new quarters to which he was to move would not run away in the meantime. He promised and the work was delivered on time. Had a long talk with the radio director of the Department of Agriculture concerning the program. Received from the Government Printing Office the proof of the English and Spanish editions of the Documentary Material--about 450 pages each. I arranged with the chief of the translation section of the Pan American Union to revise and correct the proof of the Spanish edition while I revised the English.

At the house I found Emma Burton and had a pleasant visit with her. Wife would hardly speak to me. By dint of questioning I got Otis to admit that he had finished a correspondence lesson during the day.

Wednesday, 13 August, Washington; clear and pleasantly cool. Had many telephone calls at the office. Mr. Hiscox in charge of exhibits telephoned that he could find no one in the Department of Agriculture to do the lettering for the exhibit labels. I was impatient, because I knew that almost every bureau in the department ~~had~~ had one or more draftsmen and it seemed absurd to have to employ some one from the outside and go to all the trouble of having him officially appointed for a temporary period to get this little job done. However, I told Mr. Hiscox to go ahead and hire some one.

In the evening wife and I walked to the restaurant on Pennsylvania Avenue for supper. On the way back we loitered to look into shop windows. For the moment she forgot herself and was natural.

(1930, August, Washington)

E--4241

Otis took his supper alone in the pantry. He had acquired curious habits of eating. He preferred to ^{gorge himself} ~~make a meal~~ on the one thing he liked best at the time, for which reason he did not like to go to a restaurant where food is served in portions.

During the day I received six copies of the volume of speeches made at the International Exposition at Barcellona, including my own, with complimentary comments by the president, the Baron de Esponella.

Thursday, 14 August, Washington; light showers and cooler.

Had a call from Dr. Gil Borges regarding a constructive program for continuing cooperation between the American governments, the preparation of resolutions for consideration by the conference, budgets, and other matters. He asked if I was comfortably situated and I informed him that we were badly overcrowded and as the force would be doubled in another week it would be absolutely necessary to provide additional space. He promised to have the large room adjoining our small one vacated for our use within a week.

Friday, 15 August, Washington; partly cloudy and cool. Revising Documentary Material. Interviewed by a representative of the New York Tribune. Had an interview with Prof. Cotinho, professor of Portuguese at the George Washington University, and agreed to have him appointed as translator at \$100 a week for two weeks during the conference for the benefit of the Brazilian delegation.

At the house wife was in an unpleasant mood, which made me feel resentful and made me wish that poverty did not make it necessary for me to live in the same house with her. Life is too short to spend any portion of it under the same roof with one's only bitter and vindictive enemy, but poverty is a great disciplinarian.

Saturday, 16 August, Washington; clear and pleasant. At the office I found a note from Dr. Kellerman to the private secretary of the Sec-

(1930, August, Washington)

E--4242

retary of Agriculture complaining that I had been unable to furnish him with a list of the specialists in the Bureau of Plant Industry to whom invitations had been sent, and asking whether such invitations were to be considered as an order to attend the conference, and if so whether the order contemplated reimbursement of travel expenses. Also had another note directly from Dr. Kellerman saying that "it had been decided" to have the Spanish and Portuguese translations of the English legends on the exhibits made in the Pan American Union. This characteristic action of Dr. Kellerman was annoying and I at once dictated a diplomatic memorandum to the private secretary and a less diplomatic one to Dr. Kellerman, and sent copies of them to Dr. Woods, because for more than two weeks I had been trying through Mr. Hiscox, in charge of exhibits, to get copies of the English legends from all the bureaus for translation and Dr. Kellerman's bureau had not responded. Then I dictated a letter to Dr. Taylor, Chief, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, transmitting a complete list of all members of his bureau that had been invited to attend the conference, and asking for his cooperation. Then I called up Dr. Woods by telephone and suggested that it looked as if some of the men in the Bureau of Plant Industry wished to avoid the round table discussions at the conference (Dr. Kellerman was closely identified with the Federal Horticultural Board that was responsible for many of the plant quarantines and restrictions that were a cause of grief to the Latin Americans, and these would inevitably come up for discussion). Dr. Woods said that if any one expressed such a wish or intention to refer them to him.

I worked until 1 p.m., had luncheon at the house, and drove out to Winworth. There had been enough showers during the week to lay the dust. Had a nice supper with sister and mother and we all sat

(1930, August, Washington)

E--4223

on the veranda in the evening watching the lights in the valley and listening to the song of the crickets and the katydids. Then we cut a watermelon I had brought with me and it proved to be exceptionally good. Retired at 9.30 p.m. with a glass of wine, a cigar, and a good book, "The Education of Henry Adams."

Sunday, 17 August, Washington; rain, apparently the best since last February. For many months we had been so often disappointed at the behavior of ~~our~~ clouds that it seemed almost a miracle that it was actually raining, incredible that it should be raining softly and steadily, and that there should be the sound of raindrops on the roof and that little pools should form in many places. We wondered if the rain had come in time to help the late corn. At any rate it would wet the woods down and there would be no more forest fires until it dried off again. After luncheon I drove up to Sunny Hill. The woods above the houses looked as if they had been swept by fire. I picked some golden rod to take home with me. Reached home at 5.30 p.m. Wife had prepared a nice supper. Otis was away with Thelma and her husband.

Monday, 18 August, Washington; clear and cool. Went through a rather heavy mail at the office. Finished correcting the proof of the English edition of the Documentary Material and returned it to the Government Printing Office. Had a visit from a representative of the press service of the Department of Agriculture and outlined a story for him. Also I took occasion to criticise the press service for its apparent lack of interest in the agricultural conference and the routine methods of the departments in Washington, the Department of Agriculture included. Evidently this was reported to the chief of the press service because Mr. Gapen, the chief, called up and began to talk. His dictatorial manner nettled me and I broke in and said, "See here, just listen a moment and answer a few ques-

(1930, August, Washington)

E--4244

tions please, if you can. Just tell me why it is that when you or your assistants, ~~when you~~ prepare an abstract or press notice of a printed bulletin or other material bearing the approval of the chief of bureau and the man who wrote it, you have to send the whole thing back to them for their approval; have you no one in ~~in~~ your service who is competent to take printed or typewritten material and prepare a press notice from that material; why is it you have not kept the agreement of understanding I arranged between yourself, Mr. Sweinhart and myself months ago; why is it that nothing has come out of your very expensive and rather inefficient press service regarding the coming agricultural conference; why is it that no one in the press service of the Department of Agriculture seems to have news sense enough to know that this conference is international and that many of the policies of that department will be under discussion and perhaps adverse criticism, and that these discussions will be constructive ~~and~~ and will affect our relations and our markets in twenty Latin American countries; why is it that I had to employ a special press agent to do the work that your service is paid to do, and he single handed has turned out a hundred times ~~more~~ ^{more} the publicity material than your press service has prepared regarding the conference? Now, get off your high horse, and tell me what you think you can do in future." Mr. Galpen's tone changed completely and he hastened to assure me that in future we would have all sorts of cooperation from the press service. He then said that he had really thought that Mr. Sweinhart was looking after our publicity. I said that of course he was but that no one man could cover an international project so important as the coming Inter American Conference on Agriculture and he need^{ed} help from the press service of the Department of Agriculture to give publicity to the large

(1930, August, Washington)

E--4245

number of departmental specialists who were cooperating. He snapped out, "Your Mr. Sweinhart is paid to do that, isn't he." "So are you and all your assistants," I snapped back, "and he's coming across in fine style, but it happens that you are not. I am curious to know what you have got to say about it." That ended the fireworks and he again promised cooperation. The farther I went with the preparatory work for the conference the more disgusted I became with the indifference, the stupidity, and the inefficiency of the bureaucrats of four departments, the Department of Agriculture, the State Department, the Treasury Department, and the Pan American Union, all the officials seeming to be hide-bound with routine and regulations and complacently sitting tight on their jobs and salaries with but little thought of or interest in the public service. Every last man of them seemed to be trying to shirk responsibility and yet resented the slightest criticism. The inefficiency of some of the government bureaus was simply incredible and I ached to clean some of them out and show what could be done with a desire to be of service and a little common sense.

I sent one of my assistants to the State Department to inquire why certain appointments had not been issued that I had requested two weeks previously. He found my request reposing peacefully on the desk of the appointment clerk. Dictated a letter for the signature of the Secretary of Agriculture asking the Secretary of State to arrange for a brief reception of the delegates to the conference by the President. Also accepted the bid of Rochambeau's for supplying a buffet luncheon at the Pan American Union. Rather tired when the day was over. The Washington Post contained a good editorial notice of the conference.

Tuesday, 19 August, Washington; clear and cool. Dictated

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4246

notices of appointment to several new employes, letters inclosing lists of delegates to hotels and steamship lines, and several letters of introduction. Also sent cablegrams to the delegate of Porto Rico, who was regarded as a sort of key man in the Latin American delegations, and to the Governor General of Porto Rico, urging attendance at the conference of Dr. Chardon. I took a taxie and went to the Government Printing Office and with the chief editor went through the Documentary Material clearing up all questions he and his assistants had to ask. The papers were technical and the proof readers had noted many questions.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Mr. Marquis asked for a statement from me regarding the conference. I gave a brief summary of progress and then expressed myself rather freely on the unnecessary delays I had encountered in the various departments, which I said were wholly inexcusable, and I mentioned some of them in rather scathing terms, ^{giving} mentioning names and dates. This was greeted with a howl of delight, all having had somewhat similar experiences, and it being understood that anything said in the club was strictly confidential.

In the evening I took wife in the sedan out to Silver Springs to the house of Mr. Powell, where the members of the local grange met for a picnic spread given as a farewell greeting to Mr. Warner who was about to leave for New York.

Wednesday, 20 August, Washington; clear and cool. At the office I started to work expecting to move into the Columbus Room adjoining, but at 10 o'clock Dr. Manger, who was occupying the room with two clerks, came in and asked if we could not remain where we were another week because the Columbus room would be needed for an official luncheon on the 26th. I objected on the ground that we were laboring

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4247

under great difficulties because of lack of space, the space we had was utterly inadequate and wholly unsuitable, and the assistant director had promised that we could have the larger room today. Dr. Manger was very nice about it and within an hour we had exchanged desks and rooms. Dictated a lot of letters and had many telephone calls and visitors. Trying to revise the daily program, but subject to many interruptions. Some of the employees wanted to know what prospect there was for permanent employment after the conference was over and I had to tell them there was none unless they demonstrated such outstanding efficiency that the Pan American Union might want to retain them. An applicant for a position came all the way from New York for a personal interview although I had written him not to come.

I was exhausted when I reached home in the evening, but I took some work home with me. Trying to list specialists for the round table discussions and to serve on special committees.

Thursday, 21 August, Washington; clear and cool. At the office Mr. Haskell, who was to be my assistant for a month, and several other employees reported for duty. To start them off I set Mr. Haskell to studying the program and looking over the back correspondence, and the other employees to copying papers. Mr. Haskell and I had luncheon at the Cosmos Club and there he introduced me to a Mr. Frank, entomologist of the Tropical Research Foundation and for the Cuban Sugar Club. He proved to be a very interesting gentleman. In the late afternoon Mr. Haskell introduced me to Mr. Adams, councillor of the Pan American Union, whom I had not previously met. He described a luncheon given by the Pan American Union to a diplomatic representative from Abyssinia and the special minister who was to represent the United States at the coronation ceremonies of Ras Tafari. He said he was well acquainted with

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4248

Minister Southard whom I had met at Singapore and Addis Ababa. Mr. Adams said that when Minister Southard had last visited Washington he had asked the State Department to arrange for a suitable present from the United States to the new Emperor that would rival those to be given by other countries, and his heart was nearly broken when he was told that the only present the State Department was authorized to give was a photograph of President Hoover. Mr. Southard had laid his troubles before Mr. Adams; how rich and costly presents were coming from other governments, even from Japan and China, and all the countries of Europe, and then to think that all the United States could do was to send a photograph of the president, and this at a time when the representative of the United States was the special favorite of Ras Tafari and all Americans could hope for special consideration in the matter of contracts and commercial concessions in a country just awakening to modern innovations. Mr. Adams had bestirred himself and succeeded in inducing many firms to donate ornate specimens of their wares, including a magnificent automobile, a large frigidair, a gold mounted rifle with a thousand rounds of ammunition, a radio outfit, a moving picture outfit and some reels, collections of flowering bulbs, roses, and other ornamental plants, so that in the end a considerable collection of presents was made up to be presented to his Majesty by the special commissioner of the United States.

Friday, 22 August, Washington; cloudy and cool. After distributing work to the office force Mr. Haskell and I inspected the library of the Pan American Union with its collection of 60,000 volumes and entries of periodicals relating to the Americas. Then we went into conference with Dr. Gil Borges and Dr. Manger and discussed a series of resolutions that Dr. Gil Borges had formulated for introduction at the conference. In the afternoon busy with correspondence and

proof reading.

At the house I found Thelma, Mr. Price, and the baby, and Mrs. Von Herman of Atlanta. Mrs. Von Herman looked older, naturally, than when I last met her many years before, but her school teacher characteristics were still manifest. Her daughter, whom I remembered as an attractive child, was now an attractive young lady.

Saturday, 23 August, Washington; clear and cool, like an October day. On the way to the office I stopped to look at ~~an~~ a model of the new midget automobiles that were widely advertised as coming on the market soon to sell for \$200.00. It was not much ~~la~~ larger than a piano and looked like an overgrown beetle.

At the office completed revision of the proof of the Spanish edition of Documentary Material and sent it to the Government Printing Office. There had been many unexpected delays because of the difficulty in getting translations made. We had sent the translations of the papers to the printing office as fast as they were received and the office had set up the material solid in the order of receipt, disregarding our systematic scheme of order and presentation, so that it was a real puzzle to rearrange them in the proper order so as to correspond with the English edition. Dictated a scheme of organization of committees.

In the afternoon I drove out to Winworth. Drouth not yet broken. Much of the corn had been cut and hauled in for fodder. At Winworth I found two young men from a tree repair concern working on the big oak in sister's lawn, part of which had died. Eunice and Charlie arrived in time for supper. Had a pleasant evening on the veranda. Retired to an upstairs room early with a bottle of wine, some cigars, and a volume of short stories by H.G. Wells.

Sunday, 24 August, Sunny Hill; clear and pleasant. After breakfast I drove up to Sunny Hill. At the entrance gate I found

(1930, August, Sunny Hill) E--4250

the man whom I had seen in the same spot once before with an old Ford car and two fox hounds. Apparently he had camped there all night. I stopped and told him that I objected to any one camping in front of the entrance and to hunting of any kind with gun or dog on my property, that I had advertised that fact from time to time in the local paper, and the place was posted, as he could see from the "No Hunting" signs at the corners and along the roads, all because I did not want the wild life on the place disturbed, I did not want to hear either guns or dogs, the fields were so small that the shooting of guns was dangerous, and dogs running about injured the flowering plants, and he should know that it was unlawful to hunt either on my land or in the public road. He wanted to know how much of the land belonged to me. I said that I owned the land on both sides of the road for nearly a mile; also that the law of Maryland required the written consent of an owner before any one could hunt, that no one had any such permit from me, and I wanted to know what he was doing on my land. He said that ^aCharlie Whipp had told him he could hunt on this place. I said to tell Charlie Whipp I wanted to see him, because if Charlie Whipp, whom I did not know and who had nothing whatever to do with Sunny Hill, was telling people they could hunt on my place he was laying himself liable as well as hunters for prosecution for trespass. I suggested that if he liked staying out all night just to ^{hear} his dogs howl he should do it in the wooded country north of the public road where there were no fields or houses and where he could not be arrested for trespass. I took his license number and asked his name. He said it was Garner and that he lived in Frederick.

I drove up to the ^agrage. In the Cricket House I looked for my Texas bois d'arc cane that I had not seen since the previous

(1930, Aug. Sunny Hill)

E--4251

Sunday and was disappointed not to find it. I regretted its loss because it had been my inseparable companion for nearly forty years and it felt almost like a part of myself. I could not imagine how it could have disappeared. I remembered distinctly putting it on the back seat of the sedan. Then a thought struck me. Going to the sedan I ~~rais~~ raised the cushion and there was the cane. Coming up the rough mountain road the cane had worked its way down behind the cushion and out of sight. Everything at the place was exceedingly dry. The lawns and the forest trees about the place were brown. The cowpeas that should be waist high were only about six inches high. At the lower place the Sudan grass that should have been waist high was just appearing above ground.

After a nice luncheon at Winworth I had a glass of wine and a short nap. Then I took sister and Eunice in the car around to the school house which sister had purchased when it was abandoned after the consolidated school system was adopted. In it was an old desk, sixteen school benches, and a dilapidated parlor organ and a wood stove. Sister said she wanted to keep three or four of the school seats and I could have the rest to set about Sunny Hill. The view from the school house was attractive, both over the valley and up the mountain slope.

Had a pleasant ride back as ^a ~~fa~~ as Rockville but from there to ~~W~~ Washington was a solid procession of slow^{ly} moving cars, some of them making only about fifteen miles an hour. Near Washington a Ford car broke out of line and cut in just ahead of mine and his rear fender grated on my front fender. I sounded the horn and the driver stopped at one side. We both got out. Fortunately the damage was slight, but I pretended to be very angry and gave him a lecture on the danger of trying to cut into a solid line of cars on a narrow road when there was an equally solid line of cars coming from the opposite direction.

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4252

He did not have much to say in his own defence. I took his number and proceeded. ~~At the house I found wife alone and silent, not even returning my greeting. Otis was out with Thelma and Mr. Price.~~ The Sunday Star had an article about the coming conference and a picture of Mr. Colom and myself.

Monday, 25 August, Washington; clear and pleasant. After distributing ~~wrk~~ to the office force I walked over to the Department of Agriculture and saw Dr. Woods. He approved the detailed program I had prepared ~~and~~ as well as the idea of having a departmental council meet on the first Tuesday of September. Mr. Burghard, the lawyer from Georgia, reported for duty. I had decided to take him on as a messenger to act as a sort of door keeper and information bureau for the incoming delegates because of his good address and knowledge of Spanish. He said that after applying to me for employment some weeks before he had joined a small theatrical company that was doing one night stands in the country towns of Pennsylvania, for which he received no pay but ~~at~~ got his transportation, lodging, and meals, and that he was in a little town some miles from a railway when a telephone message came through saying that an official letter had been forwarded from ^aWashington and was being held for him. This accounted for his delay in responding to my instructions. One of my visitors was a Mr. Pierce, entomologist, whom I met on the voyage from San Francisco to Honolulu in 1927. I had an invitation written for him to attend the conference. & Then I took him and Mr. Haskell to lunch with me at the Cosmos Club. He had served with some sugar companies in the Philippines. He said that under the Philippine law the area of land that could be owned by a person or a corporation~~s~~ was limited and was wholly insufficient for a sugar plantation, but the sugar people made contracts with the small growers in the surrounding section and are thus enabled to get the planted area nec-

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4253

essary to keep their mills in operation. He said also that the Philippine authorities were trying to get control of the sugar mills and ~~schools~~ squeeze them on the ground that they are public utilities and because they own and operate small railways.

In the afternoon Dr. Kraus, extension director of ^aH~~w~~aia, came in to invite me to attend a luncheon he was giving at the Cosmos Club the following day. He said that shortly after I was in Hawaia he had visited Rome ^aand was shown about by my assistant, Mr. Longobardi, for whom he had very kindly recollections.

Tuesday, 26 August, Washington; clear and hot. Very busy dictating ~~11~~ letters, correcting proofs, interviews and telephone inquiries. At noon I met a large group of bureau chiefs and specialists at the Cosmos Club as guests of Dr. Kraus, who was representing the Pan Pacific Institute which planned the agricultural conference at Honolulu to be held a year hence. It was a pleasant affair, all present being old time friends and acquaintances, and the luncheon that was served was good. However, nothing very definite came out of the meeting. I did not get away from the office until after 5 p.m.

At home I found that wife had Thelma and Mr. Price, and Mrs. Gilbert and her daughter, Ruth, to supper. Otis ate his supper quickly and promptly left the table without a word. After supper Mrs. Von Herman and her daughter came, and a little later Dr. and Mrs. Jones. I had brought some work home with me but it was impossible to excuse myself until most of the guests left about 10 p.m.

Wednesday, 27 August, Washington; clear and hot. Through the Secretary of Agriculture I sent a letter to the Secretary of State requesting that the department ascertain through diplomatic channels the names of delegates to the agricultural conference that had been designated by the various Latin American governments. Had the daily

(1930, August, Washington)

E--4254

program run off on the multigraph and when the work was delivered discovered that one page had been omitted, so that the missing page had to be run off and inserted in all the copies. Then ~~he~~ had a letter of transmittal run off and set the clerks to addressing envelopes and mailing this material. Had duplicate lists of delegates made alphabetically arranged and by countries, drafts of resolutions to be considered as well as other material, all of which was indexed and cross indexed so as to be readily found. ^a~~Ha~~ Messrs Haskell and Herman correcting proof of the Spanish Documentary Material. Dr. Gil Borges called in the afternoon to discuss tentative resolutions. At home in the evening I worked on a list of dates, subjects, and times of committee meetings, and how to supply each committee with a shorthand reporter, which was not easy when there were not enough reporters to go round and not enough money to employ others. Had a visitor in the afternoon who took up a whole hour asking questions about Brazil. He said that all his life he had wanted to go to Brazil. I said that if he was really interested in Brazil the first thing for him to do was to learn to read, speak, write, and understand Portuguese, and then accumulate twice as much capital to set up a business in Brazil as he thought would be necessary to start the same kind of business in the United States. These suggestions seemed to astonish him. Apparently he had thought the Brazilians would welcome him as an acquisition and pay him a fat salary and open many opportunities for him to acquire wealth simply because he came from the United States. He seemed much discouraged. I suggested that if he should still continue to dream about Brazil the thing for him to do was (1) learn the language, (2) acquire sufficient capital, and (3) go to Brazil and get some practical experience.

Thursday, 28 August, Washington; clear and hot. The day opened

deleted
family trouble

At the office I dictated a memorandum on the committees that were to consider about fifty different topics, meet separately and formulate brief reports on those topics, and then larger groups to consider related topics; this for discussion at the departmental meeting the following ~~Tuesday~~ week. Received a package of appointment papers from the State Department that I had requested three weeks previously. Three days would have been a liberal allowance

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4257

of time. Had Mr. Haskell and a group of clerks correcting the proof of the Spanish edition of the Documentary Material, which was slow work. Sent notices to all delegates in Washington to meet in the office of Dr. Woods the following Tuesday. In the afternoon Dr. Manger brought in and introduced Mr. Cohen, who had been engaged as interpreter for the conference. He was a young athletic Chilean, with an intelligent face and unusual experience. He at once inquired about assistants for interpreting for committees, for translations, and for reporting the full sessions of the conference and committee meetings. He was strongly in favor of installing a telephone system for interpreting. I agreed to inquire as to the expense involved and see if our meager appropriation was sufficient. He made many suggestions, most of which appealed to me as excellent. As for compensation he said his regular charge was fifty dollars a day. I suggested three hundred dollars a week for two weeks, to which he readily agreed, neither of us dreaming of the unforeseen complications involved in using the term "week" as the unit of time. I immediately wrote the State Department asking for the appointment of Mr. Cohen as the official interpreter of the conference for a period of two weeks at three hundred dollars per week, and in the course of time such an appointment was issued.

Friday, 29 August, Washington; clear and hot. Dictating letters and committee assignments. In checking up the Spanish edition of the Documentary Material I discovered that one paper had been omitted and had not even been translated. Mr. Cohen spent nearly two hours with me in the afternoon discussing questions of organization.

In the evening Mr. Gardiner, whom I knew in Rome, called at the house. He said he was employed by a law firm in New York that had a connection with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

He gave an amusing account of his experiences after leaving Rome. He came to New York with high hopes as a young lawyer with a knowledge of Italian and embassy procedure. He soon ran out of money and was unable to find employment of any kind. He finally shipped as a common seaman on a freighter bound for India. On the return voyage from Bombay with a cargo of Caster oil beans and manganese ore the ship was wrecked. He was transferred to a port city and shipped on a freighter back to New York. What he learned about seamen, their life, language, and psychology, enabled him to find many clients among them and he had prospered since. He was bub^bling over with enthusiasm and very entertaining.

Saturday, 30 August, Washington; clear and hot. At the office I read the proof of my article on cooperation that was to appear in the Pan American Bulletin. The editor praised it highly and said an effort would be made to have the Bulletin printed in time for distribution at the conference. I sent one of the employes to the State Department for pay checks. Two members of the force could not be paid because their appointments had not been issued, although requested fifteen days previously. Dr. Gil Borges came in to discuss the possibility of getting the President to send a message of welcome to the conference. The office finished revising the proof of the Spanish edition of the Documentary Material at 1 p.m. I called up the Government Printing Office and was told that it was closed for the day..

After luncheon I did a little shopping and then went home and slept for three hours. At 6.30 p.m. took wife and Thelma to a restaurant for supper. Otis was away, probably down town, although he had no money unless wife gave it to him.

Sunday, 31 August, Washington; cloudy and hot. After an early breakfast I drove out to Winworth. Met a procession of cars headed for Washington, mostly bearing Pennsylvania license tags, and on the

(1930, Aug. Washington)

E--4258

return in the afternoon I faced the same procession in the opposite direction. Most of the corn in the fields was shocked. Sister said there had not been enough moisture to bring up the Sudan grass seed, although it had germinated after one shower. We spent most of the day on the veranda talking.

Monday, Sept. 1, Washington; Labor Day; clear and hot. Slept late. After breakfast I walked down to the Avenue and bought a supply of cigars. A firemens parade was scheduled for the day but it was so hot we did not go down to see it. I slept most of the afternoon, and then wrote checks in settlement of bills.

~~Thinking about my unsatisfactory home life with an estranged wife and a sulky young man in the house I practically decided that as soon as my rush of work was over some change would have to be made. I would tell Otis that as soon as he was eighteen, next January, he would have to make an effort to become self-supporting and pay for his board and lodging either with us or some one else. Then I would give my wife the choice of going with Otis on an allowance of one-third of my net income, whatever it might be, or of remaining with me and changing her entire attitude; and if she could not bring herself to regard our marriage as a partnership with mutual obligations, including friendship, forbearance, and cooperation, then she would simply have to go somewhere else to live because I had reached the limit of my patience and endurance.~~

~~(Adriana, 1 Sept., brown folder) *over*~~

(Longobardi, same.

"Washington, D.C., 1 Sept. 1930.

"Dear Mr. Longobardi:

"I have been so busy organizing the preliminary work for the Inter American Conference on Agriculture, Forestry, and Animal Industry, that meets here September 8 to 20, that I have had no opportunity to answer your last letter. There has been an extraordinary amount of detail work to look after, many vexatious delays, and no one to help me until recently. Among other things I had to get forty or more of our specialists to prepare papers as bases for the round table discussions, have them translated, arrange and index them, and get them to the printer, and then proof read them. However, the secretariat is now organized with a staff of employes to assist me. I had listed the Institute for invitation to the conference, but the Congressional authorization was limited to the twenty-one countries members of the Pan American Union, so that other countries and institutions were excluded. As soon as documentary material is printed or mimeographed I will see that copies are forwarded to the Institute.

"My office is now in the Pan American Union building and I seldom see the Department of Agriculture. I have not seen Mr. Hobson for many weeks. One evening last week Mr. Gardner, who used to be in Rome and was a member of your Outing Club, called and had dinner with us. He gave a most humorous account of his adventures since leaving Rome in 1925. Said on reaching New York he had difficulty in getting any employment, and then only earned barely enough to live on. He had a struggle to get along until he took his master's degree in law and got admitted to the bar. Tired out, he thought a sea voyage would be the thing, but he had no money. After much difficulty he shipped as a common seaman on an American freighter bound for India. On the return voyage he was wrecked in the Indian Ocean, rescued and landed at Bombay. There the American Consul shipped him as a common seaman for the return voyage.

At Port Said he and two companions failed to return from a trip to Cairo in time to catch their boat which left without them. Again he was stranded without money and again he shipped as a seaman for New York. There he obtained employment with a firm of lawyers, likes his work, has begun to try cases in court, and is bubbling over with vitality and humor. I enjoyed his visit very much. He spoke of you and asked to be remembered to you.

"I often think of the Casetta and our little group of friendly associates and wonder how you all are getting along. When I read of the disaster at Naples I wondered if it affected you or your family in any way. I hope you will find time to write to me occasionally. I shall never lose interest in the Institute, in Rome, or my friends in Rome. I am hoping that our paths may cross again. Give my regards to Prof. Brizi and to Mr. Dore.

"With best wishes, I am

"Sincerely yours,

"Leon M. Estabrook."

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4259

Tuesday, 2 Sept., Washington; clear and hot. At 10 a.m. I took Mr. Haskell with me to the Department of Agriculture and in the conference room sat with Dr. Woods and about thirty chiefs and representatives of the ~~vri~~ various bureaus. Dr. Woods opened the meeting by outlining the purpose of the Inter American Conference on Agriculture, the necessity for every man being present and doing his part to make the conference a success, and then asked me to outline the program, which I did. Then I said that I would welcome any questions, criticisms, or suggestions. There were very few questions and no criticisms or suggestions, except by a young man from the Dairy Division whom I had never met before and who was very persistent in insisting that the Secretary of Agriculture should issue a mandatory order requiring every man on the program to be present at the conference. A few questions from me brought out the fact that what rankled in his mind was that Mr. Reed, chief of the Dairy Division, had accepted an invitation to address a dairy association in Wisconsin while the conference was in session. After the meeting was over I arranged with Dr. Woods to attend a conference with the Pan American officials the following Thursday.

After luncheon a commercial photographer called to take a picture of Dr. Gil Borges, Mr. Colom, and I, but Dr. Gil Borges happened to be away at the time. I walked up to the State Department and got Mr. Southgate to agree to be present at our preliminary conference on Thursday and Saturday, and discussed with him the possibility of getting the President to show himself or issue a message of greeting on the opening day; also the question of getting the Secretary of State to open the conference.

Wednesday, 3 Sept., Washington; clear and hot. Very hot in the office because it was necessary to keep the windows closed to

(1930, ~~Aug~~ Sept. Washington)

E--4260

prevent the wind from blowing our papers about. Two additional employees reported for duty, a stenographer and a Spanish translator. Had all the typewriter operators cutting stencils. One of the employees was sent over to the Department of Agriculture ^aand on his return reported that he had met the chief clerk and the representative of Rauscher^s who were discussing the details of the buffet luncheon to be given at the Department, and Mr. Reese sent word that the Secretary objected to the luncheon being given on the mezzanine floor of the court, as we had planned. This meant that the luncheon would have to be served in the corridors on the first floor. Dr. Gil Borges came in ^eseveral times to discuss tentative resolutions and minor points of the program. He brought in Dr. Ibarra of Venezuela whom I had met at Caracas. Had a telephone message from Mr. Southgate saying that the President had agreed to receive the delegates to the Conference the following Monday. He reported also that the Secretary of State would be out of town at the opening of the conference, but that Mr. Cooper, Acting Secretary, would preside at the opening session. Dictated a lot of correspondence. Arrangements in the Hall of the Americas were about completed. In fact, we were ready and the conference could have opened the following day.

~~(Mother, 3 Sept., brown folder)~~ omit

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4261

~~Friday, 5 Sept., Washington; clear and hot.~~

Thursday, 4 Sept., Washington; clear and hot. Papers carried reports of a great tornado in Santo Domingo. One thousand copies of the English edition of the Documentary Material, carrying all the technical papers that had been submitted, were delivered from the Government Printing Office. At 11 a.m. we had a meeting of Dr. Woods, Dr. Rowe, and other officials of the Pan American Union, Mr. Southgate of the State Department, Dr. Haskell and myself, to consider the seating of delegates, the program, and rules of procedure. In the afternoon dictating letters.

Friday, 5 Sept., Washington, clear and hot. Busy at the office getting the revised rules of procedure and programs mimeographed, telephone calls, and visitors. The most annoying visitors were two commercial photographers who had heard of the intended reception of the delegates by the President. I had had telephoned Mr. Southgate about it and he had replied that the order for the ^{official} photograph had already been given by the State Department and I could forget about it. I told the two photographers that the matter had already been arranged and was entirely beyond my control. They were very persistent and argumentative, but in the utmost good faith I repeated my answer. Then they went to the State Department to interview Mr. Southgate and returned with the report that it was all a mistake and that no order had been given. I still refused to make a decision until I could verify their report. A little later Dr. Woods ^acalled up and directed me to give a written order to the photographer he named to take the official photograph of the Presidential reception. I did not know what the photographer told Dr. Woods but he must have misrepresented the facts because it was the first and only time I ever knew Dr. Woods to issue a peremptory order without a hearing. I made no attempt to explain and simply said, "All right,

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4262

send him over." The successful candidate was the more offensive of the two. When I handed him the written order I remarked, "You fellows must be in a pretty desperate situation that caused you and your competitor to resort to the methods you have done in this instance. You have said that your competitor is a rascal, and he ~~as~~ has assured me that you are utterly incompetent; both of you have exhibited good specimens of work; and neither of you would wait to give me an opportunity to verify your report of what Mr. Southgate said which ^ch was directly contrary to what he said over the telephone to me this morning. I would rather starve than belong to a profession that requires such methods to get business." He admitted they were bitter rivals and that was the reason he had gone directly to Dr. Woods whom he knew. When his rival appeared I simply referred him to Dr. Woods. These photographers were the most annoying set of people I had to deal with. One of them ~~s~~ went so far as to say that he could prove by documentary evidence that he was a descendant of a forty-second cousin of my grandfather, which he thought was a good and sufficient reason for giving him the preference because members of the same family should stand together. Many telephone calls were received from department people asking for copies of the printed Documentary Material and for the program.

On the way home I purchased three secondhand books to read when opportunity afforded.

Saturday, 6 Sept., Washington; clear and hot. This was the day set for a preliminary meeting of the delegates that had reached Washington. I was at the office early. Delegates began to come in and register at 9.30 a.m. and to get acquainted. About eighty delegates were present, representing most of the American countries. At 10.30 they assembled in the Hall of the Americas of the Pan American Union building which was decorated with the flags of all the

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4263

American nations except Canada which did not belong to the Union. Dr. Rowe welcomed the delegates in a brief address and then called for nominations for temporary chairman and secretary. Dr. Woods and I were chosen. The program I had prepared for the occasion was followed. The rules of procedure were adopted. Delegates were designated to make the nominations on the opening day. The meeting went off according to schedule and adjourned at 1 p.m. Mr. Haskell and I hurriedly revised the program to include suggestions that had been made and the stenographers cut the stencils to have it mimeographed, as well as for the rules of procedure. Copies of the Spanish edition of the Documentary Material were delivered and ready for distribution on the opening day. Upon inquiry I ascertained that the government departments would close at 3 p.m. Saturday afternoons through ^{September} ~~December~~, so I released the female employes at 1 p.m. and the male employes later when the necessary work was completed. I remained until after 5 p.m. In ~~the~~ the evening I wrote out the minutes of the preliminary meeting.

Sunday, 7 Sept. Washington; cloudy and hot. Slept well, had a light breakfast, and read the papers. Spent the forenoon arranging papers and preparing announcements for the morrow. Slept through the afternoon and felt rested.

In the evening Thelma, Mr. Price, and the baby, and Eunice and Charlie, came in to talk awhile. After they left I asked Otis about his correspondence school lessons, concerning which he never volunteered any information, and why he was so slow in getting a job. Wife bridled up and answered for him, saying that he was trying. I asked for details, something specific, and she replied by ^a saying that he had answered a number of advertisements.

Monday, 8 Sept., Washington; cloudy and warm. Opening day of

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4264

the Inter American Agricultural Conference. The Pan American Union Building early filled up with delegates and visitors. The stage was all set. As each delegate entered the Hall of the Americas his name and address were checked and his individual card filled out with name of hotel, room, and telephone number, and he was given a large envelope containing a copy of the program, a copy of the Documentary Material, the Information Booklet, and other material. On tables at the end of the hall were piles of programs and bulletins from the various departments so that delegates could select what they wanted.

The meeting was opened by Dr. Rowe. Dr. Woods was elected president and I was selected as secretary general. After Dr. Woods read some announcements I had prepared there were speeches of welcome by Mr. Joseph P. Cotton, Acting Secretary of State; Mr. Hyde, Secretary of Agriculture; and the Minister from Mexico; followed by three responses by Dr. Insfrans of Paraguay and two others from South American countries. The rules of procedure were next formally adopted. At 1 p.m. a buffet luncheon was served in the rear of the Pan American building which was an informal and pleasant affair.

The afternoon session was short, opening with an address by the Secretary of Commerce and a response by the delegate from Honduras, followed by announcements. Committees were appointed and the Committee on Resolutions met with Dr. Gil Borges. I recognized many of the specialists from the Department of Agriculture and for a moment met Mr. Fleming and Mr. Turlington from Florida. After adjournment we of the secretariat worked until 7 p.m. getting manuscripts ready and stencils cut. After supper I returned and with three or four assistants ^{and} got everything ready for the following day, including the minutes for the first day.

Tuesday, 9 Sept., Washington; clear and pleasant. I was the

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4265

first to reach the office and was kept busy until the conference opened at 9.30 a.m. I read the minutes and they were approved. Dr. Woods introduced Dr. Burgess of the Bureau of Standards who read an excellent address. This was followed by a round table discussion of forestry problems.

At 12.40 p.m. the delegates were transferred in busses to the Department of Agriculture, where a buffet luncheon was served, after which the delegates inspected the exhibits that had been set up in the court. At ~~2.30~~ 2.15 p.m. Assistant Secretary Dunkap described the growth and development of the department, with a response of the delegate from Mexico. Then the delegates were taken in busses across the river to the Arlington Experimental Farm where specialists outlined the various experiments under way and the results it was hoped to accomplish. The return was made by way of the Arlington National Cemetery, through Fort Meyer, and back by way of the Key Bridge.

At the farm I met a Mr. Harris, tobacco specialist, who said he remembered my visit to the experimental tobacco station near Plainsville, N.Y., nearly twenty years previously. During the day Mr. Higgins, in charge of the plant introduction garden in the Canal Zone, came in and registered.

On returning to the office I found everything so nearly caught up that it would not be necessary for me to return in the evening.

Wife and I had supper at a restaurant, after which I drafted the minutes to be read the following morning.

Wednesday, 10 Sept., Washington; clear and warm. This morning and succeeding mornings the reading of the ⁱⁿ minutes was omitted and they were approved as written by me. Reconnaissance surveys and inventories were discussed, followed by statistical and economic surveys. At noon the conference was photographed in front of the Pan

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4266

American Building. The conference members then walked to the White House and the delegates were presented to President Hoover alphabetically by delegations. After this ceremony we were all lined up back of the White House for a photograph with the President standing between Dr. Woods on one side and myself on the other.

I took Mr. Fleming and Dr. Turlington with me to the Cosmos Club for luncheon.

At the afternoon session the motion picture man from the Department of Agriculture put on several reels, which were absolute and disappointing failures. The expert in charge said the electric current was insufficient. The conference adjourned shortly after 4 p.m., but I was kept very busy until after 5.30. It was necessary at the close of each day to make up a new program for the following day so as to include the items in the general program that had not been reached, and to have the amended program mimeographed and ready for the morning session. Also each evening I had to draft the minutes of the day's proceedings as a permanent record, ~~and~~ ^{dic-} ~~te~~ ^{te} them before the conference opened, so that they could be mimeographed and distributed before the close of the morning session.

Thursday, 11 Sept., Washington; clear and hot. The opening round table discussion was on statistical surveys. I got recognition as a delegate from the United States and expressed approval of the resolutions presented by Dr. Gray of the Department of Agriculture, and then made a plea for better statistical organization, with trained personnel and adequate equipment, and recommended that in order to make the international statistical clearing house, the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, of increasing value the adhering governments should be prompt in supplying data requested by the Institute. Also I recommended that the highly efficient service of the Institute, especially in the matter of promoting the international

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4267

census of agriculture should be recognized by a vote of thanks. Much to my astonishment Dr. Gray arose and said that many countries did not consider the service of the Institute as satisfactory. This, of course, was an erroneous statement. For a moment I was tempted to reply, because Dr. Gray was evidently prejudiced or misinformed by the biased statements and records of Mr. Hobson, the former American Delegate to the Institute; but my second thought was of the crowded program we had to follow and of the futility of controversial argument, and that probably the best thing to do was to pass over the matter in silence. Later the official reporter said to Dr. Woods, the presiding officer, that in three minutes I had said more to the point than any other delegate who had so far spoken. Dr. Woods smiled and said, "Well, you see Dr. Estabrook is a trained speaker.," ~~where~~ which was a surprise to me. From reconnaissance surveys the conference passed on to land problems at the forenoon session. In the afternoon the discussion closed at forestry problems.

Word came to me that the Resolutions Committee was in trouble ~~it~~ for lack of leadership and interpreters. Most of the members of that committee were Latin Americans who naturally expressed themselves in Spanish. The United States delegates were helpless because they did not understand Spanish. We had not half enough interpreters to go round. I was very tired at the close of the day.

In the evening I took my wife to the Pan American Union to hear a musical program. Dr. Rowe and a group of distinguished gentlemen stood just within the entrance to welcome the delegates and invited guests. ~~I was much embarrassed because my wife turned her back upon Dr. Rowe when I attempted to introduce her. She did the same when any one greeted me, as many did, to whom I felt she should be introduced.~~ The concert was a pleasant affair, but I was desperately tired and wanted to get back to the house to write up the

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4268

minutes of the day's proceedings. Towards 11 p.m. I dragged my wife away. There were no taxies near the building and we had to walk several squares before finding one.

Friday, 12 Sept., Washington; cloudy and warm. Had a busy day at the conference, but good progress was made. Some difficulty was experienced with the committees, many of the delegates being on two or more and the chairmen calling meeting simultaneously. Received a nice letter from Dr. Rowe complimenting me on my Cooperation article in the Pan American Bulletin.

Saturday, 10 Sept., Washington; partly cloudy and warm. Attendance at the morning session was rather small. The program was finished for the forenoon. In the afternoon I took a party in a bus to Mr. Vernon. As the result of much correspondence the superintendent had consented to admit the delegates without payment of the usual entrance fee. An employe acted as guide and showed our party around. We had a very pleasant visit but ran into a thunder storm on the way back.

Sunday, 14 Sept., Washington; cloudy and sultry. After reading the papers I went to bed and slept nearly all day.

✓
(Mother, 14 Sept., brown folder)

minutes of the day's proceedings. Towards 11 p.m. I changed my
 wife away. There were no tests near the building and we had to walk
 several agencies before finding one.

Friday, 12 Sept., Washington; cloudy and warm. Had a busy day at
 the conference, but good progress was made. Some difficulty was ex-
 perience with the committee, many of the delegates being on two or
 more and the chairman calling meeting simultaneously. Received a
 nice letter from Dr. Howe complimenting me on my Cooperation article
 in the Pan American Bulletin.

Saturday, 10 Sept., Washington; partly cloudy and warm. Attend-
 ance at the morning session was rather small. The program was fin-
 ished for the forenoon. In the afternoon I took a party in a bus
 to Mr. Vernon. As the result of such correspondence the understand-
 ent had consented to admit the delegates without payment of the usual
 entrance fee. An employee acted as guide and showed our party around.
 We had a very pleasant visit but ran into a thunder storm on the
 way back.

Sunday, 14 Sept., Washington; cloudy and sultry. After read-
 ing the paper I went to bed and slept nearly all day.

(Mother, 14 Sept., Brown Folder)

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4269

Monday, 15 Sept., Washington; cloudy and hot. We had a long program and many speakers, and they succeeded each other so fast that I could do no more than take brief notes. It took me until after 9 p.m. to make a shorthand draft of the minutes to be dictated the following morning. Dr. Ibarra of Venezuela asked if a transcript of the shorthand report of the proceedings could not be duplicated and supplied to the delegates so that they could use it in making up their reports to their governments. I explained that our appropriation was insufficient and that the best we could do was to furnish a complete report shortly after the conference adjourned. A Mr. Gilbert, representing the University of Miami, ~~was~~ was given a few minutes before adjournment to extend a cordial invitation to the delegates to return by way of Miami.

Tuesday, 16 Sept., Washington; partly cloudy and hot. Dictated fifteen pages of minutes in the morning, minutes for the forenoon session at noon, and for the afternoon session after adjournment, all to be transcribed the following day. The subject of coffee was up for a discussion during the day and it seemed that the Latin American delegates could talk interminably on it. The Brazilian delegate was quite witty and, referring to the extreme heat in Washington, said that he now understood why the United States was called the 'melting pot.'" I was much bothered at times by a multiplicity of visitors and questions, making it difficult to handle one at a time.

Wednesday, 17 Sept., Washington; clear and hot. Shortly after 9 a.m. two buss loads of delegates were taken to the Plant Introduction Farm at Glendale, Maryland, and we were shown over the place by Superintendent Morrison. Then we were driven to the University of Maryland at College Park and were welcomed by its president, my old friend Dr. Pearson. From there we were taken to the Dairy and

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4270

Animal Industry Experimental Farms near Beltsville, where we had a picnic luncheon, had our pictures taken, and were shown over the establishment. We returned to Washington at 6 p.m. Then I attended a dress suit dinner and reception at the Cosmos Club given by the National Society of Foresters to the Latin American delegations. One of my table companions was Mr. Heintzelman in the U.S. Forest Service stationed in Alaska, and he had many interesting things to tell me.

Thursday, 18 Sept., Washington; clear, cool, and pleasant. We finished the entire program in the middle of the afternoon and took up various resolutions for discussion. Sr. Pascal ~~Guter~~ Gutierrez, agricultural attache of Mexico, made a long attack on the U.S. tariff and its effect on the trucking industry of northern Mexico which seemed to meet the approbation of the Latin American delegates generally. His speech was dramatic because of his appearance. He had been in a serious automobile accident a few days before and left the hospital ^apale and bandaged and ^awaⁿ altogether quite a spectacle. Photographs of the conference taken in front of the Pan American Union building and back of the White House were distributed in the afternoon.

Friday, 19 Sept., Washington; clear and cool. The secretariat was exceedingly busy typewriting and cutting stencils of resolutions and other material for the Final Act. After a short meeting in the forenoon the conference adjourned until 3.30 p.m. to give the various committees time in which to agree upon resolutions. A buffet luncheon was served at the Pan American Building. At 3.30 p.m. the Resolutions Committee brought in a long list of resolutions which were read by titles and adopted. After adjournment I took Mr. Haskell with me to the house for supper. We were back at 8 p.m. with most of the secretariat force. We worked until 4 a.m. making up and running off copies of the resolutions in parallel columns, English and

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4271

Spanish. At 10 p.m. I sent one of the messengers out for a supply of ice cream, and again later for coffee. Everybody was in good humor and working desperately. We finished at 4 a.m. and scattered to our homes for a little sleep.

Saturday, 20 Sept., Washington; clear and pleasant. I reached the office at 9 a.m. and found a rather disheveled and disorganized force gathering. The conference opened at 10 a.m. with a small attendance at first. The Final Act embodying all the resolutions was read by titles, adopted, and then followed the ceremony of signing by the chairman of the twenty-one official delegations. The Final Act included resolutions of commendation of Dr. Woods as presiding officer and of myself as secretary general. After the signing of the Final Act there were congratulatory speeches by the different delegations, all stressing the thoroughness with which the preparatory work had been done, the smoothness with which the conference had accomplished its work, and the good will and co-operation that had prevailed. The conference ^aadjourned at noon with ~~ev~~ everybody happy and satisfied, especially Dr. Woods and I who ^ahad borne the responsibility. There were many farewells that kept me busy until after 1 p.m.

When I reached the house no one was at home. I got the car out and made a quick run to Winworth. Had a long nap, a good supper, a bottle of wine, and went to bed to sleep straight through until 8 a.m. the next morning.

Sunday, 21 Sept., Sunny Hill; clear and hot. After breakfast I drove up to Sunny Hill. I opened up the Cricket House and played some phonograph records. Had a nice dinner at Winworth and a long nap. Reached home ~~at~~ at 6 p.m. Otis out with Thelma and Mr. Price, wife and I alone.

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E:4272

Monday, 22 Sept., Washington; clear and hot. Received a nice letter from Dr. Rowe congratulating me on the success of the conference; also a cablegram from the president of the International Institute of Agriculture asking me to be present at the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Institute. The period of service of several of the employees of the secretariat terminated; the others I planned to keep until the aftermath of the conference was cleared up. Started one of the employees making an inventory of furniture and materials. We were all extremely tired and the heat made it difficult to ~~next~~ work.

Had luncheon at an uptown restaurant and took a taxi back to the office on account of the sweltering heat. Lent the official copy of the minutes to Mr. Colon who was to prepare an article on the conference for the Pan American Bulletin. During the conference a quantity of ~~a~~ material had accumulated and I set some of the clerks to listing and indexing it. ^{Wrote} ~~REX~~ a number of congratulatory letters to the specialists who had contributed to the success of the conference and began to turn over material to the Pan American Union.

Tuesday, 23 Sept., Washington; clear and hot. (~~Bring down last sentence above~~).

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon I gave a brief summary of the results of the conference. Mr. Holman told about the work of the Cooperative Institute.

In the afternoon I saw Dr. Woods who approved my program for closing out the aftermath of the conference. I showed him the cablegram I had received from the Institute and suggested that perhaps some representative of the United States in Europe might attend the anniversary of the founding of the Institute. He thought well of it and asked me to see Mr. Olsen about it. He suggested

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4273

that it would be an excellent arrangement if I were employed by the Pan American Union. I replied that I would welcome such a connection, that I understood that my connection with the Department of Agriculture was now a temporary one, and that I had nothing else in view. I saw Mr. Olsen who said that the Department had no money available for travel expenses and that the State Department agreed that in pursuance of the policy of nonparticipation in the activities of the International Institute of Agriculture no one from the United States should be authorized to attend the anniversary celebration. I mentioned the land sequestration proposal made by Dr. Gray before the conference and pointed out the danger of it to many countries and the desirability of soft-peddling the project. Also I invited Mr. Olsen to come over to the Pan American Union and sign the Final Act as a delegate from the United States.

I saw Dr. Stockberger, business manager, and advised him that the exhibition material could be taken down, that the display tables and cases paid for out of the conference appropriation could be turned over to the Department of Agriculture, and suggested the desirability of keeping some of the exhibits permanently in the court of the administration building as a matter of interest to the visitors of the department, to all of which he agreed.

~~(Radio talk on conference, 22 Sept., brown folder)~~ omit

(1930, Feb. Washington)

E--4274

Wednesday, 24 Sept., Washington; clear and very hot. I felt the heat more than I ever did in the tropics. I dictated letters, ~~and~~ answered telephone calls and the many questions that came up hourly. Had an interview with Dr. Gil Borges and we agreed ~~y~~ upon the number of copies of the Documentary Material and of the Final Act that should be printed and distributed. He suggested that the American Delegation should make a report to the State Department that would serve as the official record of the conference. As I was leaving he expressed the wish that I could continue to work on the cooperation project, to which I replied that it would be an agreeable assignment to me if the money could be found to finance my salary. Had an interview with Mr. Sweinhart, our publicity agent. My secretary, Mr. Hermann, took leave to apply for a position with the Tariff Board and asked if I could get Dr. Rowe, Director of the Pan American Union, to give him a letter of recommendation. I declined to make the attempt on the ground that Dr. Rowe had never even met him and did not know him or his work. He seemed utterly incapable of understanding why Dr. Rowe, a stranger to him, should not give him an official letter of recommendation. I pacified him for the time being by dictating a letter of introduction to Dr. John Lee Coulter, a member of the Board whom I had known since 1913.

Thursday, 25 Sept., Washington; clear and hot. Writing letters and sorting papers, although the oppressive heat made work of any kind difficult. Had a visit from Dr. Nieves of Argentina, director of the agricultural experiment station at Guatrache, who remained ~~with~~ with me more than an hour. He was acquainted with many of my friends in the Ministerio de Agricultura and said that the new administration had appointed Dr. LeBreton, the former Minister of Agriculture, as Minister to France, and there were rumors that he might become President.

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4275

In the afternoon clearing my desk of duplicate and obsolete papers that had accumulated. In the late afternoon Mr. Hyslop of the Bureau of Entomology called up to propose that Dr. Marlatt, himself, and several others should be designated as ~~perma~~ members of the Permanent Technical Committee that was to be organized as the result of the ~~committee~~ conference.

For several days the city of Washington, and probably the surrounding country, was covered with a host of little brown moths. I asked Dr. Hyslop about it and he said they probably came from Mexico, ~~be~~ blown up by the hot south winds, and would probably die.

Friday, 26 Sept., Washington; clear and very hot. Nearly finished sorting papers. Had a call from Mr. Erickson, in charge of the experimental farm in Albania. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club. Mr. Cohen, the conference interpreter, had volunteered to revise the Spanish version of the Final Act and he now brought in a section.

During the day I happened to look up and became interested in watching out of the corner of my eye the behavior of two young women typists, a blond^e and a brunette. The blond^e was plump and well rounded and formed with an innocent face. She wore a peekaboo waist and when she leaned over a desk displayed a beautiful pair of breasts. She wore a short skirt and roll top stockings and when she sat down ~~and~~ and leaned back she exposed a pretty pair of legs above the stockings. The little brunette was thin, but she had a habit of leaning coyly against the men when she had occasion to consult them, and the occasions were frequent. I could not determine which of the two caused the liveliest interest ~~if~~ on the part of the men, the beautiful blond^e with her look of innocence and distance, or the thin brunette with her familiarities. Obviously both were quite active in displaying their charms because the period of their employment was drawing to a close. (Lubin, 26 Sept., brown ~~✓~~ folder).

"Washington, D.C., Sept. 26, 1930.

Mr. Simon J. Lubin, President,
Sacramento Region Citizens Council,
Sacramento, California.

Dear Mr. Lubin:

"This is the first opportunity I have had to answer your letter of September 15. I am glad to know that the Reciprocal Trade Conference was a success and that provision has been made for future conferences, because I believe that they are useful, not only for promoting trade and commerce, but also for promoting better feeling, cooperation and international relations between a group of countries and peoples having common interests in a way that ultimately may have a most important and beneficial influence on the economic life and welfare of the peoples of other continents.

"At last accounts Mr. Hobson had about recovered.

"Early this week I had a cablegram from President de Michelis urging me to be present on October 14 at the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Institute. Upon inquiry at the Department of Agriculture I ascertained (1) that neither the State Department nor the Department of Agriculture expects to have any representation at either the General Assembly or the Anniversary meeting in October, and (2) that no funds are available for ^{travel} ~~travel~~. I think this is a very regrettable situation, due principally to the unfortunate bias of our former permanent delegate and partly to certain diplomatic questions of a controversial nature, which I hope will clear up in another year or so.

"Our agricultural conference was successful beyond expectations, in view of the unfortunate official delays that occurred in the beginning. It was attended by 54 official delegates, representing all countries members of the Pan American Union, and 168 consulting delegates. The program was carried out in detail, the conference was harmonious throughout in every respect, and when the delegates dispersed

it was with a feeling that the conference had been a great success.

"I inclose for your information a copy of the Final Act (which will be severely edited before printing) that will give you an idea of the resolutions adopted and the proposed organization for continuing Inter-American cooperation.

"Sr. Perez of Cuba prepared a statement setting forth the results of the Trade Conference which, in his absence, was read in plenary session by Mr. Reid.

"Congratulating you on the success of your conference, I am

"Sincerely yours,

"Leon M. Estabrook."

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4276

Saturday, 27 Sept., Washington; clear and cool, the weather having changed during the night from tropical heat to autumn coolness. Yesterday I wore a Palm Beach suit and perspired; today I wore a heavy woolen suit and was chilly. There had been no rain to amount to anything for months and many cities and towns were running short of water.

Had a long talk with the Portuguese Dr. Cotinho, who had traveled widely, had visited Argentina and Brazil, and in addition to teaching in the George Washington University had charge of a lecture course in a Berlin University.

In the afternoon I drove out to Winworth as usual, had a nice chicken dinner, and a pleasant evening with the folks.

Sunday, 28 Sept., Sunny Hill; cloudy and warm. Had a nice breakfast of pancakes and pork chops, and then drove up to Sunny Hill with sister. Together we inspected the peony fields. After sister left I went up on Observatory Hill, the crest of our ridge, and sat awhile in the shade watching the tree tops wave in the breeze. Later I drove down to the lower place. The front gate had been broken, as well as one of the windows in the house. I walked up to the main spring and speculated as to how a storage tank could be constructed and the water piped to the upper place. After a nice luncheon and a good nap I had a pleasant drive back to Washington.

There was no one at the house for an hour or more after I arrived. Then wife returned and prepared supper. Both she and Otis silent and sulky. I asked Otis if he had gotten off three lessons of his correspondence course during the week. He mumbled that he had not because he had spent two days with Thelma. Wife had said several days before that Otis planned to take a Civil Service examination for messenger. I asked him when the examination was to be

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4278

Monday, 29 Sept., Washington; clear and cool. Feeling as if I had a slight attack of influenza which was prevalent. Met Dr. Woods and his son on the street in the morning. Both were bright and cheery. Spent the day formulating headings for the seventy-five resolutions adopted by the Conference. Some of them were rather difficult because they covered several topics. Wrote letters of recommendation for ~~some~~ several members of the temporary staff. My secretary, Mr. Hermann, said that Sr. Tillo, the little Peruvian, had asked him to inquire whether I would ~~in~~ lend him some money. I declined emphatically because I judged that he was a chronic borrower and always in debt. Dr. Gil Borges came in to inquire whether I thought the U.S. Bureau of Entomology would be willing to compile a list of all the insects injurious to crops and vegetation in the northern half of South America. I suggested that this would be a good topic for discussion by the Technical Advisory Commission as soon as it was organized.

On the way home I bought some second hand books. Wife and I had supper at a restaurant and then she departed without saying anything. At the house Mrs. Johnston came in and informed me that she had given our telephone number to people from whom she expected calls, and if the calls came, she said she knew I would not mind telling the parties to hold the line while I notified her. I thanked her for mentioning it but suggested that perhaps it would have been better to have consulted us before giving our telephone number to strangers and expecting telephone service from us; that where I came from it usually took two to make a bargain, a contract, or an arrangement of that kind; that she lived upstairs in an apartment house half a block from our house and that, of course, it would be more convenient if she would arrange to use a telephone in the same building, and more convenient still if she would arrange to have a

(1930, Sept. Washington)

E--4279

telephone installed in her apartment; or if she could not afford the monthly charge for a telephone of her own she might get cheap service from the little store across the street; but in any case she must not depend upon our telephone unless it was an emergency, a matter of life or death, or something of that kind. She quickly departed and in very bad humor. Wife was very peevish when I told her about it, not at the neighborhood parisite but at me.

Tuesday, 30 Sept., Washington; clear and pleasant. At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Mr. James of the Public Roads Office gave an interesting description of his sojourn in Colombia. He said the government was in debt but did not know to what extent, that estimates of the debt varied from twenty to thirty-four million, and that all public works had been suspended. A county agent from Michigan said that his country had suffered from an unprecedented drouth and there was neither hay nor corn.

At the house Otis did not leave his room for supper. I inferred that he had not called at the Civil Service Commission and did not wish to meet me.

~~(Sister Nellie, 30 Sept., brown folder)~~ omit

(1930, ~~Sept~~ Oct. Washington)

E--4280

Wednesday, 1 Oct., Washington; clear and cool, thermometer registered as low as 46 degrees. At the office I asked Mr. Hermann for some correspondence with the shorthand reporters. After a diligent search he said it could not be found. I sent him over to look at the file in the office at the Department of Agriculture. He returned saying it was not there. Two hours had been lost in the search. Perplexed and impatient because I needed the correspondence in making up the account in settlement with the reporters, I stepped over to the filing case, yanked out a drawer, and the first folder that struck my eye was the w one I wanted. I said nothing but simply thrust it in front of Mr. Hermann. He looked quite ill for awhile.

The little blonde gave the men a fine display of curved neck and shoulders, white breasts, and well rounded pink legs during the day, which caused me to chuckle inwardly as I speculated on which one would take her out for the evening and pay for her supper and entertainment.

When I reached the house I found Otis, as often happened at that hour, taking a bath, which meant that I had to wait for him to get through before I could wash up after the day's work. After the bath he would dress up and condescend to come to the supper table, sullen and silent. He would bolt his food and depart without a word. I asked wife if he ever condescended to announce where he was going. Her only reply was "Sometimes." I remarked that if he continued to act like a disagreeable stranger he would have to live like one, in another house. Then she said that she understood that he was going to see Walker (Chapman). Half an hour later Walker called and wanted to know where he could find Otis.

Tuesday, 2 Oct., Washington; clear and cool. Still working on the Final Act, English and Spanish in parallel columns, and checking

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4281

them word for word, sentence by sentence, and idea by idea, and noting after each the date of its adoption by the conference, with suitable headings, and arranging them in a certain logical order. Many of the resolutions had been hastily drawn, some of them were long and involved, many had been drafted originally in Spanish and then translated into English very clumsily, and some of them had amendments tacked onto them, all of which made it difficult to smooth them out and make them intelligible. The Conference had realized this and had by vote authorized me to edit them. That was one reason why I took so much pains and spent so much time on them.

Several long, technical, and much involved papers had been submitted at the last minute by Latin American delegates and it was a question whether we could afford to have them translated and printed. Dr. Gil Borges called and I discussed these matters with him and he agreed that we could not afford the expense and that the best way was for me to explain diplomatically the situation to the authors.

Again Dr. Gil Borges mentioned the desirability of my continuing to promote cooperation in the American countries. Again I said I would be glad to engage in such work, but apparently it was a question of available funds and that I understood that the Department of Agriculture could not afford to pay me a salary beyond December 31.

I received a letter from the interpreter, Mr. Cohen, saying that he had not received the full amount due him under his contract. On the first working day after the close of the conference I had made up an account and transmitted it to the State Department for settlement, with a letter asking that prompt payment be made to Mr. Cohen who had engaged steamer passage and wished to leave

(1930, Oct., Washington)

E--4282

without delay. In accordance with the advice of the accountant of the State Department I had asked the department for the appointment of Mr. Cohen for two weeks at \$300 a week and the appointment was duly issued. He had actually served two days before the date of the appointment, every day for the full period of two weeks, and a day or two after the expiration of his appointment, the extra time being volunteered to make the conference a success. The account for his services had been made out for two weeks at \$300 a week, or a total of \$600, and was duly certified by me as secretary general, with a copy of Mr. Cohen's official appointment attached. Nearly two weeks had elapsed before payment was made, and now it appeared that he had not received full payment.

I ~~at once~~ called up the accountant of the State Department and he at once referred me to the office of the Auditor for the State and Other Departments in the Treasury Department. There, after prolonged references from one clerk to another, I finally got in touch with the auditor who acknowledged that he had handled the account of Mr. Cohen. "Oh, yes," he remembered the account. His voice was curt. I asked if he would kindly explain to me why Mr. Cohen had not received the full amount called for by his contract with the United States government. "~~What~~ What contract," he asked. I replied, "His contract of employment set forth in his official appointment signed by the Secretary of State and specifying a period of two weeks at three hundred dollars per week, or a total of six hundred dollars. Was not that perfectly clear?" Then he began to regale me with technicalities as to what constituted a week. He said there were statute laws and decisions of the accounting officers of the Treasury Department that were quite clear as to what constituted a day, a month, or a year, but they were conflicting as to what constituted a week; that by one definition a week

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4283

was made up of seven days, but if so one of those days was a Sunday, which by law is a holiday for which no pay could be claimed without a certificate of the proper officer that service was necessary and actually performed on that holiday; or a week might be considered as one-fourth of a month, which under Federal law and interpretations consisted of exactly thirty days, regardless of its calendar length; or it might be one-fiftysecond part of a year, and that again involved complications; and that after due deliberation with his colleagues it had been decided that the two weeks referred to in the account of Mr. Cohen really meant one-half of a month, which would be fifteen days, and that those fifteen days included two Sundays for which he could not receive compensation, and as there was no separate and special certificate on the account that he had actually served on those two Sundays deduction therefor had been made. I was mad. I asked it there had been any question in his mind or those of his colleagues as to the authenticity of the official appointment signed by the Secretary of State or as to the genuineness of the signature of the officer duly authorized by the government to sign the certificate on the account, or as to the correctness of the account itself based on the appointment paper and the certificate. He replied no. Was there any question in ~~there~~ their minds as to the rate of compensation specified in the appointment contract and in the account, \$300 a week, I asked. No, he ^{ad} said that was perfectly clear. Then the only question must have been as to the definition of a "week", as the unit of time specified in the appointment contract, I suggested. "Yes, that was it," he replied. "You had no difficulty in verifying the computation of the amount due as stated in the account, two weeks at \$300 a week, twice 300, making a total of \$600," I asked. "Oh, no, that was clear," he said, "but it was not clear what was meant by a 'week'!

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4284

"Dammitall," I said, "what earthly difference does it make what you or any of your colleagues think about the term 'week' or what definitions you dug up or make, a week is a week, and was so specified in the appointment contract. The contract specified two weeks and ^{the} certified account shows that service was performed for two weeks--not days or months, or years, just weeks. Now, can't you see that it does not make the slightest difference whether you and your colleagues in considering this account thought a week does, could, would, or should consist of seven days, or eight days or six days, or nine days, or five days, or even of one day, whatever definition you adopt it must still mean a week, and there are two of those weeks--any kind of a week you want or prefer--the claimant served those two weeks, and the rate of compensation is exactly \$300 per week and the period exactly two weeks, and the total quite obviously is \$600, the amount claimed." "Are you trying to be sarcastic," he asked. "Not at all," I replied, "it isn't necessary. It seems to me that you must have figured the compensation due the claimant in this case on a day basis. Isn't that it." "Of course we had to consider it on a day basis to get at the deductions to make for the Sundays," he replied. "Sorry to bother you some more," I said, "but you had before you a solemn contract by the United States government that specified the week as the unit of time as the basis of compensation. Please tell me what was your legal authority to disregard that contract and substitute another unit of time to which neither party to the contract had agreed. Tell me that will you." "I can't argue with you," he replied. "Right you are for once" I replied and hung up. My respect for the intelligence and efficiency of the accountants of the U.S. Treasury Department was not enhanced by this clash. It was just one more example of their colossal stupidity.

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4285

Then I dictated a letter to Mr. Cohen with which I inclosed a supplemental account and a letter of transmittal of the account to the accounting officers for his signature, claiming the amount still due under his contract. Mr. Cohen left Washington soon after and I never learned the outcome of his appeal. The next I heard of him he was appointed Chilean ambassador to Washington. I know of no one better qualified to represent his country in a diplomatic capacity. He was the best interpreter I ever encountered with the single exception of Madame Agresti of Rome, the difference being that he was a man and excelled along business lines, while she was a woman and excelled along literary lines.

My secretary, Mr. Hermann, had by this time become so interested in trying to find new employment that he was of little help to me, but because he had worked strenuously during the critical period of the conference I was lenient with him and overlooked his long absences from the office. After one of his absences he said that the Red Cross wanted him for a week or two and he asked if he could not continue to be borne on my payroll and thus draw a double salary while working for the Red Cross. I looked at him in surprise, but he seemed to think that such an arrangement was all right. I simply said that under the law no employe of the United States government could draw two salaries and if he went with the Red Cross he would have to resign his position with the State Department, and if he resigned I would not feel justified in recommending his reappointment. Then I told him that if he would pay more attention to his duties while with me he could count on continued employment as long as was necessary to complete the editorial and other work in connection with the conference which might last a month or more; otherwise I would have

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4286

to find some one else to help me finish the work.

~~(Letter Secretary State re Cohen, 3 Oct. brown folder. omit~~

~~(Comptroller, same. omit~~

Friday, 3 Oct., Washington; clear and cold, down to 44 degrees. Dictated a lot of letters and began drafting a report for the American delegation. Received a copy of "La Hacienda" with a good reproduction of the photographs of the conference at the White House.

At the office I distributed work to those who yet remained with me and I continued working on the report of the American delegation. I telephoned the Chief Clerk of the Department of Agriculture and ascertained that the Saturday afternoon holidays had ended with September. I notified the office force that any one desiring to take Saturday afternoon off would have to charge it to his allowance of leave, ^{as} ~~which~~ ^{would} ~~I proposed to~~ do myself.

I left the office in charge of Mr. Hermann. I reached the house at 1 p.m. and ~~found wife just washing the breakfast dishes.~~ ~~The bedroom was still in disorder. Wife was frigid and I~~ ^{got} luncheon at a nearby restaurant. Then I drove out to Winworth, had a fine supper with sister and mother, and spent the evening reading, smoking, and sipping homemade wine. Winworth had recently been equipped with electric lights that were a great improvement over the gaslight equipment that preceeded it. In the evening we had a blazing fire in the open fireplace that was very attractive. It was a beautiful moonlight night.

Sunday, 5 Oct., Sunny Hill; clear and pleasant. After breakfast I took mother in the partnership roadster to Frederick to have the tires pumped up and a supply of gasoline put in the tank. Returned by another route and she enjoyed the ride. Then I drove up to Sunny Hill. Everything there was as dry as a bone. I gathered some cosmos blossoms from plants that were only a fourth normal in size. It was discouraging to see so many plants, shrubs, and trees that appeared to be dead from the prolonged drouth. I sat awhile in the Cricket House and played some of my favorite records on the portable phonograph. Some had been purchased in Buenos Aires and

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4289

some in Washington, and I had them with me one year in Rome. How they brought back memories of the different cities and hotel rooms I had visited and occupied in which I had listened to these same records in the past. At Winworth sister had provided a nice dinner of fried chicken, gravy, potatoes, hot biscuits, and jam. I left early and reached home at 5 p.m. Wife was away but returned at 6.30. Otis did not show up.

Monday, 6 Oct., Washington; clear and cool. Spent the day working on the report of the American delegation and revising the Final Act. Had part of the office force copying the resolutions which, after being certified to as true copies by me, were to be mailed to the persons concerned. Returning from luncheon I met Mr. Adams, concillor of the Pan American Union, on the street and he was bubbling over with enthusiasm at the results of his efforts to obtain suitable presents from the United States to Ras Tafari on the occasion of his coronation as emperor of Ethiopia. After office hours Mr. Adams brought up a gentleman who was interested in organizing some sort of an agency for disposing of lands in Central and South America. He had in mind getting out some sort of a prospectus, employing experts in agriculture, forestry, and animal industry, and advertizing and selling immense tracts of cheap lands which would be managed by for the buyers by the experts so employed. I said the scheme was all right in theory but its success would depend upon many things, sufficient capital, the kind of experts employed, and the state of world markets when those lands began to produce.

Tuesday, 7 Oct., Washington; clear and cool. On the way to the office in the morning I took notice of an attractive young woman walking just ahead of me and between me and the sun. She was so thinly clad that with the strong illumination of the sun I could see every interior garment she wore and the rounded curves of her body

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4290

and the movement of her muscles almost as well as if she were entirely nude. I was warmly clad and I wondered if she were not cold; also I wondered what would have happened if she had appeared in that ~~xxx~~ semitransparent attire twenty years previously.

At the office checking up the numbered paragraphs of the Final Act and working on the report of the American delegation. Received a letter from Mr. Montgomery, economist at the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, inclosing a paper on index numbers which had been rejected by the Permanent Committee and which he asked me to try to have published in the United States. There was some sort of Red Cross celebration at the Auditorium and Mr. Hermann, whose wife had a temporary position with the Red Cross, brought invitation cards for the buffet luncheon. We went over together and found the place so badly crowded that it was a very scrappy luncheon and we did not succeed in getting either coffee or tea. I saw many people I knew among the department officials and the diplomatic corps. Mr. Hermann and I became separated in the dense crowd and could not find each other again, so I returned alone. Finished mailing the last copies of the resolutions adopted by the conference.

Received an invitation to address the City Womens Club on the 28th, which I reluctantly accepted because I felt that it was good discipline to make an address about once in so often.

Wednesday, 8 Oct., Washington; cloudy and warmer. Spent most of the day revising and arranging the Portuguese translation of the Final Act to agree with the English and Spanish versions.

At the house wife and I ate alone, Otis having departed without indicating his destination. Later a young man called and said that Otis had agreed to lend him his set of automobile tools. Wife let him have them. Then wife went to a Grange meeting at which there

)1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4291

was to be a spelling match. I did not go with her because of my dislike for the ritual and because I had other things to do.

Thursday, 9 Oct. Washington; cloudy and cold. Foliage in the parks beginning to turn. I worked on the classified ^{index} ~~Yiz~~ of the resolutions in the Final Act and on the report of the American delegation. Started Mr. Hermann to work on a French translation of the Final Act for the benefit of Haiti. Miss Mill^{er}, the young lady employe from Brazil, left at noon to enter on duty at the Brazilian Legation. We were all pleased that she had found employment because she was exceptionally efficient, modest, and ladylike.

Friday, 10 Oct., Washington; clear and pleasant. Foliage coloring up rapidly. Spent another day working on the index of the resolutions in the Final Act. I had intended seeing the moving picture of African Wild Life in the evening, but wife refused to go and I ~~fe~~ felt too tired to go alone.

Saturday, 11 Oct., Washington; fair and pleasant. I dictated a portion of the report of the American delegation. Prof. Cotinho came to the office to work on the Portuguese translation of the Documentary Material.

In the afternoon I drove out to Winworth. The foliage near Washington was brilliant, especially that of Virginia creeper and maple. We had a nice supper and sat on the veranda until 9 p.m.

(QOEP, Oct. WSunny Hill)

E--4292

Charlie and Eunice came out about that time. Retired with a book, a bottle of wine, and some cigars.

Sunday, 12 Octm, Sunny Hill; clear and pleasant. After breakfast I went up to Sunny Hill. Some of the peonies and Siberian irises had been transplanted, although the ground was as dry as a bone. I rested in the little Cricket House awhile. Leslie Masser came over to inquire about a supply of firewood. I told him he was welcome to dead trees, but for live trees I would expect him to pay four dollars a cord. Had a nice luncheon at Winworth and sat on the front veranda overlooking the valley. Mr. Price, Thelma, the baby, and Otis came out. Otis would not come in but remained sitting in the rumble seat. I did not recognize him at first because he was wearing a leather jacket and a white sailor cap that I had not seen before. I had a pleasant drive back to Washington, but when I stopped for a red light at DuPont Circle I felt a severe jolt and a loud report like an explosion. A car driven by a woman had crashed into the rear of the sedan damaging the rear fender and trunk. She was nice about it and gave me her address and that of the garage which she said she would notify to repair the damage without cost to me.

Monday, 13 Oct., Washington; cloudy and threatening rain. Before breakfast I ran the car to the garage ^{at the} ~~whose~~ ^{the address of which} address was given me by the lady who ran into it the previous evening. The manager said the lady's card was good and he would proceed to make the necessary repairs.

At the office I dictated another section of the report of the American delegation. Then I started making notes for the address before the City Womens Club, the date for it having been moved forward. Mr. Leudkte called and said that he was going to Buenos Aires as assistant to Mr. Ray, one of our former field agents. I saw Mr.

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4293

Hobson for a moment on the street; also Mr. Kaufman and one of his assistants from California.

Tuesday, 14, Oct., Washington; cloudy and warm. Leaves beginning to fall. Dictated another chapter of the report of the American delegation, some correspondence, and several letters of recommendation for the office force. Miss Green, the Porto Rican girl, was much disappointed and in tears at the one I gave her, ~~bt~~ but not more disappointed than I had been at her lackadaisical deportment, her lack of interest, intelligence, and efficiency. She had lived in Porto Rico until she was fifteen, Spanish was her native language, and yet she could not spell correctly either Spanish or English, could do nothing well no matter how simple, and made so many stupid blunders that most of her work had to be done over again. I was strongly inclined to cancel her appointment the first week, but she was so overjoyed at getting a position and was so helpless and appealing that I procrastinated and kept her on as a matter of charity, which was wrong, of course. After the conference was over I kept her on for two weeks longer to allow her to go out at the same time as several others so that her feelings would not be hurt. But when it came to writing a letter of recommendation for her the best I could say for her was that she was young and lacked office experience but no doubt would improve if given an opportunity.

In preparation for a travel talk before the womens club I had listed in shorthand the names of the cities I had visited. I wanted this list typewritten so I dictated it slowly to the little blonde stenographer. She had trouble with the names and did not have the list ready by closing time.

At 4.30 p.m. I walked up to the headquarters of the City Women's Club on Jackson Place facing the park and waited about fifteen minutes for the members to gather. The large room was

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4294

filled with a gathering of typical middleaged female government employes. I told them briefly of the object of my travel mission and then took them on an imaginary visit to each of the capital cities of Europe, mentioning a few things regarding each. Although they were tired I could see that they were interested and before I had realized it I had talked for more than an hour, for which I apologized. When I stopped I was given quite an ovation and invited to address them at a second meeting.

Wednesday, 15 October; Washington; clear and hot. Spent the day summarizing proceedings of the conference for the report of the American delegation. Transmitted a newspaper clipping to Mr. Simon J. Lubin of Sacramento to the effect that David Lubin, his father, originator and founder of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, was present at the anniversary celebration of the founding of the Institute with his family and ^{was} the recipient of many honors. (David Lubin died in 1919).

Visited the garage where I had left the car for repairs. The manager said the lady who had caused the damage had telephoned to say that she was not responsible for all the damage, and therefore nothing had been done. I instructed him to go ahead with the repairs, ~~xxxx~~ the cost of which I would pay and look to the lady's husband for reimbursement.

At the house I found a telegram from Miss Vanzetti, my former secretary at Rome, saying that she had a splendid opportunity to go to Russia and asking if I could help her with traveling expenses to the extent of one hundred dollars. She meant it as a loan, of course, with the expectation of repaying it later. However, wife had opened and read the telegram and drew her own conclusions. I sent Adriana a cable reply regretting that I could not supply the funds. We were

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4295

taking our suppers at restaurants regularly now and I knew that wife's allowance of household money was running short because she had used a portion of it for Otis. After supper she departed with Miss Jenkins and was gone several hours. In fact, I rarely saw my wife except at breakfast and supper. We were to all intents and purposes strangers, she without the common courtesy of a stranger. I saw even less of Otis who kept out of sight and took many of his meals with Thelma.

Thursday, 16 Oct., Washington; clear and hot. Called at the garage in the morning for my car and found that nothing had been done. I was a trifle caustic in my questioning of the manager and he promised to have the car ready the following day.

At the office Mr. Hermann and I were somewhat worried for awhile because we had entrusted the pay check for Miss Miller^{er}, the Brazilian, to Miss Green, the Porto Rican, who volunteered to deliver the check to Miss Miller^{er}, as she intended to see ~~Miss Miller~~ ^{on the} her way home. In the morning Miss Miller^{er} called in person for her check and said she had not seen Miss Green. We tried vainly for several hours to find Miss Green, without success. Late in the afternoon Miss Miller^{er} telephoned that she had her check. That irresponsible young flapper had carried her friend's pay check about with her for twenty-four hours without letting any one know of her whereabouts.

Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club. On the way back I stopped to watch a group of young women practice archery under an instructor on the ellipse below the White House. They were dressed in baggy black bloomers and had bare legs. The thing that fascinated me was not their female forms but their extreme awkwardness with bow and arrow. They were about as awkward as women usually are who try to throw stones.

Had a visit from a representative of the Associated Press who wanted a story of the "low-down" on the trouble between the the United States government and the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. After exacting a promise from him to be diplomatic in his version of the story, to the effect that it all grew out of the personal animosity engendered between ^wto strong and able men, the president of the Institute with the Italian government back of him, and the Permanent Delegate representing and having the backing of the United States government but who was clumsy, had blundered badly, and had forgotten what he was sent to Rome for, to improve the efficiency of the Institute, and had set out to cripple the Institute as a matter of revenge against the Italian president and had partly succeeded because of his biased reports and statements.

The Spanish and Portuguese translations of the English text of the final act and the index were finished, but the French version was only partly finished.

I received a note from Dr. Gil Borges requesting that I arrange for compensation of one of his clerks for translating a paper containing about one thousand words, which he claimed was equivalent to twelve hours. I returned the note with a memorandum to the effect that to pay this clerk from the conference appropriation would involve correspondence with the State Department, the issuance of an official appointment, the taking of an oath of office at the State Department during office hours, a formal resignation, the preparation and certification of a special pay roll, the issuance of a check, and perhaps other red tape. I suggested that inasmuch as clerks had been freely loaned from my office to help on work of the Pan American Union after the conference closed without expectation of compensation from his department, perhaps he might wish to re-

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4297

consider his request. I did not hear of the matter again.

Friday, 17 Oct., Washington; clear and hot. In the forenoon I walked across to the Department of Agriculture to see Dr. Woods and then stepped up to my office on the third floor. I opened the door and walked in unceremoniously and surprised two people at work on the drouth relief project. Mutual explanations followed. They were temporary employes that had been placed in my room without consulting me. I assured them that it was all right, except that I expected to return at an early date and they should be prepared to vacate on short notice.

After office I went to the garage, paid the bill for repairs, and drove the car home. After supper I sent the receipted bill with a polite note to the husband of the lady responsible for the damage for such action as his own sense of obligation might suggest.

~~(Mother, 17 Oct., brown folder)~~ *omit*

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4298

Saturday, 18 Oct., Washington; clear and cool. Spent the day summarizing the report of proceedings of the conference for the report of the American delegation. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Dr. Woodbury of the Cannery Association. We both agreed that Dr. Marvin, Chief of the Weather Bureau, had a closed mind with respect to the possibilities of long range forecasting.

At 8 o'clock I went to the Cosmos Club and gave a talk on the Inter American Conference on Agriculture before a meeting of the American Biological Society. It was a rather dignified and solemn affair, but the audience listened attentively and applauded when I finished. My friend, Dr. Hitchcock, followed with a talk on the meeting of the International Botanical Society at Cambridge. He was down for a fifteen minute address, but talked for more than an hour and the audience was visibly tired.

Sunday, 19 Oct., Washington; clear and cool. After breakfast I drove out to Winworth over a fairly clear road, had a nice luncheon, a glass of wine, and we sat before a blazing fire on an open hearth. ~~As usual, Charlie Worthy spent about two hours polishing his car.~~ At 3 p.m. some visitors from Martinsburg came in. They were pleasant people to meet.

I reached home at 6 o'clock and wife and I had supper alone. Otis had been with Thelma all day. I remarked, with a mistaken sense of humor and a chuckle, that Mr. Price did not know when he married Thelma that he was also marrying Otis. The frigid silence that followed made me realize the heinousness of my offense.

Monday, 20 Oct., Washington; clear and cool, almost freezing. Heavy snow reported in northern New York. Made a fire in the furnace and the house was warm throughout. At the office working on the report of the American delegation, which involved reading many pages of the shorthand report.

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4299

Tuesday, 21 Oct. Washington; clear and cold, 31 degrees in the morning. At the office arranging in parallel columns the English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French, versions of the resolutions in the Final Act, with an index in the four languages. It was the last day of service for Mr. Pechin, my most efficient stenographer, typist, and stencil cutter.

The Farm Hands Club luncheon was poorly attended.

(Chief, Bu. Accts. State Dept. re printing of invitations,
21 Oct., brown folder.)

(Same re purchase of cigars by Mr. Sheets.)

omit

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4300

Wednesday, 22 Octm, Washington; clear and cold. At the office received a pre-audit statement of differences from the Treasury Department, one regarding the purchase of cigars by Mr. Sheets of the Bureau of Animal Husbandry for the entertainment of the delegates at the animal experiment station, and one regarding the printing by a private firm of the invitations issued by the Pan American Union to the buffet luncheon, ^{in reply} to which I wrote two sarcastic letters, with what result I never knew. The Treasury Department did not object to the purchase of the cigars as such, but said that they should have been purchased on a formal requisition and payment made therefor upon presentation at the department of a voucher account. I pointed out that this would have required a period of at least thirty days and cited specific instances to prove it. The objection to the printing item was that it was not done at the Government Printing Office. I pointed out that the printing was done on order of the Pan American Union to which the United States statute regarding government printing did not apply, and that to have had the cards printed at the Government Printing Office would have required fourteen days instead of fourteen hours and an increase in cost of from fifty to one hundred percent, and I cited the case of my Information Booklet. No reply was ever received.

In the afternoon I finished summarizing several hundred pages of the typewritten transcript of the shorthand report of proceedings.

In the evening wife and I went to a Grange meeting, and after the foolish ritual was over I gave a talk on Abyssinia.

Thursday, 23 Oct., Washington; clear and cold. At the breakfast table wife confessed she was out of money and was correspondingly amiable. She said Otis needed a dollar for a photograph to attach to his application for Civil Service examination as messenger,

(1030, Oct. Washington)

E--4201

and she did not have the dollar. Of course, I let him have it.

Spent the day scanning the parallel column versions of the Final Act in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French, and its seventy-five resolutions, some of which were very long. Found a number of errors. The amount of work~~ed~~ involved in editing the hastily prepared resolutions as adopted by the conference, arranging and indexing them, and then getting accurate and comparable translations of the English version in three foreign languages was incredible. Dr. Gil Borges called for copies of the revised version of the Final Act for the members of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union and I had to advise him that they were not yet printed but were ready to send to the printer, and that it was impractical to make typewritten copies unless his office could do the work.

Began to think of what I should do if there was no employment for me after the first of January in the Department of Agriculture. I did not like the idea of going to Sunny Hill at my age with so much pioneer work to be done, especially following the prolonged drouth which would cut off income from the flowers for at least another year. Evidently a major depression was on and ~~it~~ it would not be easy to find employment with a private firm, as might easily have been done a few years previously. And after nearly forty years of steady employment in which advancement had come without ~~soliciting~~ solicitation I could not think of seeking employment, especially in the Department of Agriculture after my conspicuously successful foreign mission.

Friday, 24 Oct. Washington; cloudy, cold, threatening snow. Finished comparing and revising the four language versions of the Final Act and rules of procedure which were now ready for the

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4202

printer. Had luncheon as the guest of Mr. Wiles, newspaper correspondent, at the Cosmos Club who wanted information about Abyssinia. He was also much interested in what I had to say about Russia because, as he said, he had been following the lectures of a Prof. Walsh of the Georgetown University who had specialized on Russia.

After supper a representative of an insurance company came to the house with a check to reimburse me for the damage to my car. The new hot water heating plant warmed the house nicely in every ~~new~~ nook and corner. Wife had prepared a good supper and both she and Otis were less hostile than usual.

Saturday, 25 Oct., Washington; clear and cold. Spent the day revising a summary of the proceedings of the conference. Mr. Hermann nearly finished with the index. Dr. Cotinho spent the day in the office revising the Portuguese version of the Documentary Material. I saw Mr. Haskell for a few minutes and we talked about his work for the Federal Farm Board to which he had returned. The secretary of Dr. Woods ~~says~~ telephoned to know when I expected to return to my room in the Department of Agriculture and I replied that it would be on the last day of October.

Otis reported that he had tried the examination for messenger boy ~~today~~ with about two hundred other boys at the high school.

Sunday, 26 Oct. Washington; cloudy and cold. After breakfast I read the papers and at 10 o'clock went to the First Congregationalist Church on Columbia Road near 14th Street where I had been invited to give a travel talk. There I met a small but select group and told them about the census project, the extent of my travels, and some of the things that had attracted my attention. As usual it was a rather long talk, although I tried to cut it short. A judge asked why I did not give a lecture before the ^{National} Geographical Society.

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4203

A senator asked if he could meet me at the Cosmos Club. At 11 a.m. the president of the club or group brought me in his car to the house. After luncheon I had a short nap and then visited the Corcoran Art Gallery and spent an hour or two very agreeably. On returning to the house I had another nap. Wife and I had supper alone, Otis being gone. ~~After supper one of the neighbors came in and there was a long conversation between her and my wife about the troubles in the Johnston family.~~ Eunice came in for a few minutes. She had just returned from Winworth and said old Barney, the big horse, had injured himself. Sister had sent for a veterinarian who came out and lanced a large swelling on the horse's hip. She thought the poor horse was getting worse. ^{Eunice} ~~she~~ said Mrs. Johnston had told her that Otis had bought from Walker the old wreck of a Ford touring car.

Monday, 27 Oct. Washington; cloudy and cold. At last the four-language typewritten manuscript of the Final Act, rules of procedure, and index, was sent to the printer. This would enable me to give my undivided attention to the report of the American delegation which I hoped to have printed if the appropriation held out.

~~(Mother, 27 Oct., brown folder)~~

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4306

Tuesday, 28 Oct., Washington; clear and pleasant. Working on an index to the report of the American delegation. Had all the furniture borrowed from the General Supply Committee labeled so that it could be readily identified and informed the Committee that the furniture would be returned. Also wrote to the Chief Clerk of the Department of Agriculture asking him to arrange for the removal of the remaining furniture, records, and supplies to my room on the third floor of the administration building. Had Mr. Hermann make up a payroll. Told Dr. Cotinho, who appeared to be nursing his job in translating the Documentary Material, that he must finish his work within one week. Notified the employes, except Mr. Hermann, that their services would have to terminate on the last day of the month. Was requested by a man in the Department of Agriculture to address the Men's Club of Ballston, Virginia, on the thirtieth. I disliked making addresses before small groups simply for their entertainment and without compensation, but usually I complied for the sake of practice.

Wife was busy preparing for Halloween celebration by the Grange. I declined to take part in it because of my dislike ~~for~~ *of* masquerade parties and the tiresome character of the Grange ritual.

Wednesday, 29 Oct., Washington; light showers and gloomy. A letter from sister said that old Barney was not getting along very ~~we~~ well and that the Shookstown road would be torn up for repairs. Spent the day working on the index to the report of the American Delegation. Telephoned the Chief Clerk to see if he would furnish transportation for our equipment on the last day of the month.

Wife left for the Grange meeting early and I had supper at a restaurant. I stopped to see Eunice who lived in the same block. She said she had canvassed Washington ~~f~~om end to end seeking em-

(1930, Oct. Washington)

E--4308

Friday, 31 Oct. Washington; cloudy and cold. The nurse came in the morning. I had stipulated that she would have to cook her own meals and look after herself as well as the wife. I made myself a breakfast of milk and crackers. Otis appeared, gave one disgusted look about, and went out, probably to get breakfast with his sister. As soon as things were in order at the house I went to the office.

A man and truck came from the Department of Agriculture for a load of furniture to go to the warehouse of the General Supply Committee. I dictated some testimonials for the employes whose service was to end that day, and a letter to Dr. Rowe listing the materials and supplies I was turning over to the Pan American Union. Then the truck came for the equipment, records, and supplies that were to go to our room in the Department of Agriculture.

At 2 p.m. Mr. Hermann and I walked across the Mall to our office in the administration building. Mr. Hermann was the sole remaining member of the emergency force employed for the agricultural conference. At the office we found things in great disorder and the typewriter that we had left in the room two months previously had disappeared. I had to ask the Chief Clerk to supply us with another machine. We set about arranging the records, publications, and supplies. While thus engaged a former occupant of the room returned and seemed much surprised at our intrusion, but he became duly apologetic after I explained the situation.

Saturday, 1 Nov., Washington; clear and cool. Everything coming along smoothly. Dr. Cotinho called and asked for a desk in our little one room office to continue his Portuguese translation of the Documentary Material. I dictated some letters and told Mr. Hermann to look after the office the rest of the day. I returned to the

(1930, Nov. Washington)

E--4310

house and found all well. I telephoned Thelma to ask if she could spend the night with my wife after the nurse left, and she agreed. Also I talked with wife and she urged me not to stay on her account.

I had luncheon at a restaurant and then drove out to Winworth. The Shookstown road between Frederick and Winworth was partly torn up for repairs but I managed to get through. I found mother and sister ~~well~~ well and glad to see me. En route the autumn foliage was gorgeous. We had a nice supper and a cheerful evening together.

Sunday, 2 Nov., Washington; clear and cool. After breakfast I ~~drove~~ drove up to Sunny Hill. A white frost was on the grass. The foliage was very pretty. I set up the stove in the Cricket House and made a fire. Played some phonograph records. Picked an armful of chrysanthemums.

Had a nice luncheon at Winworth, left early, and reached home at 5 o'clock. I found Miss Jenkins and her sister, Mrs. ^{Spadden} Stebbins, with my wife. They left as soon as I appeared. Otis was away. In the evening Thelma and her husband came in for a few minutes. Wife resting well.

Monday, 3 Nov., Washington; clear and cool. Walked to the office and back. Spent the forenoon dictating letters and began drafting an address for the Frederick Garden Club. Several of the neighbors called to see wife in the evening. She was very quiet and had little to say.

Tuesday, 4 Nov., Washington; cloudy with a slow drizzle, the first in many months. Before going to the office I took a suit out to be pressed, left the car at a garage to have oil changed and a general checking up, telephoned about a broken furnace shaker, and returned an electric clock I had purchased because it could not be used with direct current. Also left a chair to be repaired.

(1930, Nov. Washington)

E--4311

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon the attendance was slim and nothing of interest developed.

When I reached the house in the evening I found wife very much better. Took Otis with me to a restaurant for supper. He ate heartily from which I inferred that pickings in the pantry had been poor. He was very uncommunicative and difficult to talk to. I asked him who paid for the gasoline and oil for the partnership car and he said that Walker paid for part of it and Thelma had paid for five gallons when he took her to a place to see Nadine.

Wednesday, 5 Nov., Washington; clear and colder. At work on "Gardens of the World" for the talk next week. Mr. Hermann finished typing the index to the report of the American delegation I had prepared. Wife improving.

Thursday, 6 Nov., Washington; clear and cold. Took the report of the American delegation over for Dr. Woods to see and sign. I called up the other members of the delegation in Washington and got their consent for me to sign their names to the report so that it could go to the printer. Then sent it to the State Department for the printing requisition.

Dr. Woods spoke of my future employment and expressed the wish that he might retain me to look after the Department's participation in the World Exposition to be held at Chicago in 1933, but no money was available for my salary. I replied that I would much prefer to remain in service but did not wish to feel that I was an embarrassment to the Department and unless something was available where my training and experience could be utilized to advantage I would leave the service on the first of January and go to my mountain retreat, and that in no circumstances would I go about soliciting an appointment or accept a subordinate position after the service I had rendered and the rank I had held.

(1930, Nov. Washington)

E--4312

At the house I found that wife was much stronger and that we could dispense with the nurse. I learned from wife that Otis had taken a girl named Ethel to visit her people at Martinsburg, West Virginia, in the ancient and shaky partnership Ford car and that Ethel was to pay for the gasoline. This ~~explanation~~ information was vouchsafed in explanation of Otis's absence.

Friday, 7 Nov., Washington; cloudy and cold, 27 degrees in the morning. ~~Wife was able to go downstairs but was still very weak.~~ At the Office Mr. Hermann and I began proof reading the Portuguese translation of the Documentary Material and found everything accounted for except the index.

Otis returned late in the evening from his trip to Martinsburg. In response to questions he admitted he had not reached Martinsburg the day before until after dark and that when he started to return he found that the old car had no lights and would not start, so that he and the girl had to ^pend the night with her people.

Eunice called in the evening to say that she and her husband would not be out to Winworth the following Sunday because Charlie was planning a trip to see his people in Alabama.

Saturday, 8 Nov., Washington; clear and cold. On the way to the office I stopped at the greenhouses to see the annual chrysanthemum show. Mr. Hermann went to the house of Dr. Cotinho to obtain the index to the Portuguese version of Documentary Material, after which we sent the manuscript to the State Department for printing requisition. This concluded the work in connection with the agricultural conference except proof reading and correspondence. I left early and on the way home bought a copy of Mark Sullivan's "Our Times-- The Turn of the Century." Spent the rest of the afternoon arranging my looseleaf shorthand diary in envelopes by months and years so that I could readily find the notes for any particular day. Wife was able to go shopping in the afternoon.

(1930, Nov. Washington)

E--4313

Sunday, 9 Nov., Washington; clear and warmer. After breakfast I read the papers and then drove out to Winworth. The autumn foliage en route had lost much of its color. After a nice luncheon I took mother with me up to Sunny Hill for a visit to the Massers and to see the new baby. I opened up the Cricket House, fixed the stovepipe, and then walked about the place. Everything was bone dry because many months had passed since there was any rain. We had a nice supper and a pleasant evening at Winworth and I went to bed with a book, a bottle of wine, and some cigars.

Monday, 10 Nov., ~~Washington~~ Winworth; clear and pleasant. Had a nice breakfast of buckwheat cakes, country sausage, and maple syrup. I know of nothing more satisfying in cold weather. I took mother in her car into the bank at Frederick. The Shookstown road was undergoing repairs, so I crossed by way of Rocky Springs. Saw many town hunters out for rabbits. At the bank mother discovered that she had left the check she wished to deposit at home. At her earnest request and to please her I went with her to the News-Post, the local newspaper, and gave an interview to Miss Tull who had many questions to ask about my travels and opinions. Then we went to a grocery store for supplies and reached Winworth in time for luncheon of milk toast and fig pudding. *P* At 2.30 p.m. I drove with mother back to Frederick, she deposited her check, and we sat in the reception *of the Francis Scott Key Hotel* room until Mrs. Holmes D. Baker called for us. Then we proceeded to the residence of Mrs. Dr. Baer where the Garden Club was meeting. There were twenty or thirty lady members present. I talked for an hour about the gardens I had seen in my travels and the members seemed to be appreciative. I wished very much to get away but could not very well refuse their invitation to take tea with them, especially as mother was thoroughly enjoying the meeting. Not only was I tired from standing in one position so long but the moment I ~~at~~ sat down

(1930, Nov. Winworth)

E--4314

I began to have severe griping pains in the abdomen that made it difficult for me to retain my composure and look pleasant. At last we were permitted to leave and I made a quick run back to Winworth. The pains continued for several hours but gradually subsided. We had a very pleasant evening together listening to the radio.

Tuesday, 11 Nov., Washington; cloudy and cold. Had a nice breakfast. Lewis took the old truck to town to be inspected. After he returned we went up to Lower Sunny Hill and picked out trees along the boundary line for his winter's wood. The fence was ~~done~~^w in several places and there were ten cows belonging to a neighbor in the corn ~~field~~ field. For luncheon Sister Nellie had prepared a nice chicken potpie.

I left early and reached home at 3 o'clock. Wife was in the house but very quiet. I brought in a basket of farm produce for Eunice from Winworth which I delivered.

Wednesday, 12 Nov., Washington; threatening showers, but none came. At the office had a letter from Mr. Simon J. Lubin asking that I consent to serve as a member of the organizing committee of the Pan American Institute of Reciprocal Trade. Spent some time studying the status of the conference appropriation and the budget allotments. Found that the budget items were running very close.

At the house wife was very quiet but said that Thelma and her husband had bought some furniture on the instalment plan.

Thursday, 13 Nov., Washington; cloudy. Drafted a letter to the State Department asking that the budget allotments be adjusted so as to avoid a small deficit that I foresaw on one item with credit balances on all other items.

Friday, 14 Nov., Washington; cloudy and misty. Saw Mr. Southgate of the State Department relative to the adjustment of the budget items and everything was agreed to in a few minutes. Mr. Hermann made up the last payroll for the conference, except that his own salary would continue.

(1930, Nov., Washington)

E--4330

Thursday, 20 Nov., Washington; clear and colder. At the office I dictated some letters and read over some notes I had made for an address I was to make in the evening before the Men's Club of St. George's Episcopal Church at Ballston, Virginia. The president of the club took me out and brought me back. The meeting was held in a small building near the church with about forty members present. They seemed much pleased with my talk. After the address was concluded sandwiches and coffee were served. Old Major King, a retired employe of my bureau and then in his 99th year was present. He sat with me while we ate our sandwiches and I talked with him about his long life and what he had seen and experienced and the old gentleman seemed to be greatly pleased.

During the day I had luncheon at the Cosmos Club with Mr. Batchellor, Director of the Experiment Station at Riverside. He had succeeded my old friend, Dr. Webber. He had recognized me when I came in and beckoned me to join him. I confess I did not recognize him until he mentioned the fact that we had crossed the Atlantic on the same ship.

Friday, 21 Nov., Washington; cloudy and cold. The proof of the report of the American delegation was received in the forenoon and Mr. Hermann and I at once began the work of proof reading.

At noon I walked to the Raleigh Hotel to see what the Agronomical Society was doing. I met Mr. Charles J. Brand, Dr. Lippman, and Dr. E.D. Ball. At the Cosmos Club I met Mr. Vrooman for a few minutes.

(1930, Nov. Washington)

E--4331

Saturday, 22 Nov., Washington; cloudy and cold. Spent the forenoon reading proof. Took leave in the afternoon and drove to Winworth with sister. We stopped in Frederick for groceries and I bought some oysters for supper. While waiting for supper I had a telephone call from Mr. Delaplaine, editor of the Frederick Post, asking me to address the Kiwanis Club on December 30th. We had a nice supper with oysters both fried and stewed. Then we sat by a fire in the evening and I read Sullivan's "Our Times," sipped wine and smoked. . The wine was made of white grapes and very good, homemade and of the sherry type.

Sunday, 23 Nov., Winworth; clear and pleasant. Had a nice breakfast of buckwheat cakes and country sausage. Drove up to Sunny Hill. Near the poultry yard were some large iron kettles and other evidence that hogs had been killed. It was contrary to my agreement with Leslie Masser that any hogs should be kept on the place. Evidently he had purchased some ^ylive hogs, fed them for awhile, and then slaughtered them. I made a fire in the Cricket House, swept the leaves from the porch and the cistern platform, and cut some weeds in the

garden. The abelia shrubs were very pretty with their green and bronzed leaves glistening in the sunlight.

At Winworth we had a baked chicken and hot biscuits for luncheon. Sister Nellie returned with me to Washington in order that she might make application for a vacancy in the Federal Farm ~~Be~~ Board of which she had heard.

After a light supper I went down to my den and wrote a new will stipulating that one-third of my estate should go to my wife, which would be the equivalent of her dower rights, and the remainder to my sister; this because of my wife's hostility and my sister's loyalty. It was very discouraging to think of my wife turning against me so unexpectedly and so unrelentingly, mainly because of our difference over Otis and her parasitic friends, which meant that all of our old plans for the closing years of our lives must come to naught.

Monday, 24 Nov., Washington; threatening rain. After breakfast I executed my new will and placed it in my private safety deposit box. Mr. Hermann and I read proof of the report of the American delegation, finished it, and he returned it to the Government Printing Office. Received a letter from Mr. Tutt, Trade Commissioner at Houston, asking if I would give some talks on cotton the last of January; also a letter from Mr. Simon J. Lubin repeating his request that I serve ~~on~~ on the advisory committee of the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Institute.

Tuesday, 25 Nov., Washington; cloudy and much colder. Mr. Hermann was away for most of the day looking for a job. I supplied him with a letter of recommendation.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon Mr. Gray Silver described conditions due to the drouth in the neighborhood of Berkeley Springs where he lived and had a commercial apple orchard. A young man formerly with the University of Wisconsin described the difficulties encountered in the economic utilization of cut-over lands. Some years ago land companies had colonized these lands and had induced county commissioners to issue bonds for the building of roads and schoolhouses; the colonists failed to make a living and abandoned their farms which the countries took over for nonpayment of taxes; and then the countries had difficulty in maintaining the roads and schoolhouses without patrons or taxes.

~~Mrs. Bode took supper with us and exhibited photographs of~~

(1930, Nov. Washington)

E--4338

I knew it was only a dream; I was responsible for my wife, and I felt under many obligations to mother and sister who were barely able to subsist and had no other male relative. As for the adopted children I felt that both had cancelled all my legal and moral obligations to them by reason of their inexcusable conduct and hostile attitude long continued.

Wednesday, 26 Nov., Washington; cloudy and cold. At the office I worked on a shorthand draft of an address for the Kiwanis Club meeting of December 30. I had expected to receive proof of the Final Act from the Government Printing Office but it did not come. On the way home I stepped into the Goodman men's furnishing shop ~~near~~ at 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The two brothers were in the shop and both ~~remembered~~ recognized me although I had not been in the shop since old War Department days a quarter of a century before.

Thursday, 27 Nov., Washington; clear and cold. I left early with Eunice for Winworth. A strong north wind was blowing and it was ^u~~much~~ colder on the mountain. Sister had prepared a nice Thanksgiving dinner. We left early and reached Washington ~~at~~ 4 o'clock.

At the house I found dinner in progress with Thelma and Mr. Price, Otis and Mrs. Bode present. Wife complained about the furnace which she said did not act right. I asked her if she had managed the damper as I had tried to show her. She answered "No, of course not." Mrs. Bode spoke up and said that the manipulation of the damper to control the heat was very simple. I turned to my wife and asked if she thought Mrs. Bode really understood how to operate a furnace. "Of course she does" was her answer. I asked her if she would be willing to let Mrs. Bode show her how to increase the heat and how to diminish it. She said she would. ~~I said I would go~~ I asked Mrs. Bode if she was willing to show my wife how to work the

(1930, Nov. Washington)

E--4339

damper, and she readily consented. I said I would go along too as I might learn something, but promised to say nothing. Mrs. Bode immediately readjusted the damper exactly as I had tried to show my wife. Wife was red in the face because she knew this. She tried to argue with Mrs. Bode, saying it just could not be done that way. Mrs. Bode tried to explain just why the damper should be turned in certain directions to get certain results. As the argument proceeded and Mrs. Bode did not seem to be getting anywhere I discretely withdrew. Wife had peculiar notions about mechanics. She had always refused to give her assent to the idea that hot air ascends and cold air descends, or that ten gas or electric lights would consume more gas or electricity than one light, and so on with many facts that are sufficiently obvious for most people.

Friday, 28 Nov., Washington; clear and cool. Spent the forenoon working on the Kiwanis address. In the afternoon proof of the Final Act began to arrive. I had intended to terminate Mr. Hermann's appointment on November 31, but because of the delay in receiving proof from the printer I told him I would let the appointment run two weeks longer if he would help with the proof, to which he readily agreed.

At the house I found wife still confused over the management of the furnace. I drew a diagram of the furnace, its doors and drafts, with arrows pointing in the direction of air currents, and typed a set of explanations and instructions. After her failure to comprehend Mrs. Bode's explanations, which she realized were the same as mine, she seemed willing to listen to me for the first time regarding the management of the furnace.

At the breakfast table wife asked that I purchase metal covers to place on top of the ^{hot water} ~~steam~~ radiators. I said that such covers would be convenient but that I did not feel that we could afford them, and

(1930, Nov. Washington)

E--4340

that they were not really necessary because hot water pipes or radiators that did not leak could not produce steam ~~of~~^x smoke.

When I returned in the evening I found that she had wrapped the radiators with old rags which not only were ugly to look at but greatly reduced the radiation.

Saturday, 29 Nov., Washington; clear and cold. The water pipes in the kitchen closets froze during the night. Otis was still employed at the little shop across the street. Wife was up twice to knock on his door to tell him to get up. While we were eating breakfast he passed through the dining room, grunted sullenly, and went down to the basement, presumably to look after the furnace. After breakfast I went down and found the fire had not been fixed, the coal hod set in front of my den door, and the ~~street~~ door wide open with a cold wind blowing in. Otis was nowhere in sight. I stepped across the street and saw that he was sitting behind the counter eating a sandwich and drinking milk. He looked guilty and confused at sight of me. I bought some matches and made no comment.

At the office I finished revising the English text of the Final Act and Mr. Hermann finished the French version.

I took the afternoon off and on the way home stopp~~d~~^{ed} ~~at~~^{at} the jewelry shop where Eunice worked to see if she cared to go out to Winworth with me the following day. As she was not going I proceeded to drive out to Winworth. The men had butchered some pigs for my ~~sist~~ sister and for supper we had a lot of tidbits along with mashed potatoes and hot biscuits. In the evening we sat about a good fire ~~talked~~ and listened to the radio. I had a bottle of homema^e wine and smokes and we talked about our early experiences in Texas together.

Sunday, 30 Nov., Winworth; raining softly. After breakfast I drove up to Sunny Hill, made a fire in the Cricket House, and played

(1930, Nov. Sunny Hill)

E--4341

some records. I tested the kerosene lamp and found it in bad order and spent some time cleaning it ready for use. Then I got a ladder and cleaned the leaves out of the gutters of the roof. I could ~~not~~ find a rake in the tool house with which to get some of the leaves and trash off the lawn. Found several of the farm gates wide open and closed them.

Sister Nellie had prepared a nice luncheon of baked spareribs, trimmings, and hot mince pie. I left early as usual.

At the house I found Otis in the dining room pressing his suit. He did not speak, nor did he take supper with us, evidently preferring sandwiches and other dainties and freedom in the store across the way. I brought some fresh pork back with me and took a portion of it to Eunice. I found her designing display advertisements.

Wife was away when I returned but she came in time to set out some supper for me and then left immediately without any indication of where she was going or when she would return.

Monday, 1 Dec., Washington; clear and warmer. Spent the entire day at the office with Mr. Hermann correcting proof of the Final Act. Received a copy of the technical workers in the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the following year. For the first time in more than two decades my name was omitted, which I took as a rather clear indication that I was already regarded as out of the service. This would not have worried me especially had it not been for the estrangement with my wife and the probability that I would have to make provision for her separate maintenance.

Wednesday, 3 Dec., Washington; clear and cold. Spent the day working on the index of the report of the American delegation and nearly finished. The index, of course, could not be made until the page proof had been received, and this had caused the delay.

(1930, Dec. Washington)

E--4346

without a word. "So be it, my dear," I thought, "God bless our happy home."

Thursday, 4 Dec., Washington; clear and cold. At the office working on the index to report of American delegation. Dictated address for Kiwanis Club. Had luncheon at the Cosmos Club. Received a nice letter from Sister Nellie.

Friday, 5 Dec., Washington; cloudy and warmer. Mr. Frank Andrews called at the office. He had been one of my principal assistants in the crop estimating days but had been stationed at Salt Lake city on account of his health. I took him with me to the Cosmos Club for luncheon.

Monday, 8 Dec., Washington; clear and cold. Mr. Hermann was away during the forenoon looking for employment. I finished the index to the report of the American delegation and sent it to the Public Printer. In the afternoon we read proof.

After supper I called at Eunice's apartment and spent two hours with mother. Eunice was still working at the jewelry shop and did not return until 9 p.m. At the house wife was silent and disagreeable in manner and kept out of my sight as much as possible. One could live with a hostile stranger with much more comfort because he would not care, but to see a malignant look on the face of one's wife instead of a friendly expression, was most intolerable.

Tuesday, 9 Dec., Washington; clear and moderating. Received page proof of the Final Act in four parallel language columns. Prepared an index of same. Still correcting proof of the Portuguese

version of the Documentary Material.

Ph 4355

Wednesday, 10 Dec., Washington; clear and warmer. At the office I received the remainder of the proof of the Final Act and spent ~~the~~ the day checking it with the original. The English version was easy but the Spanish, French, and Portuguese versions required very careful reading to insure that they conveyed exactly the same meaning as the English original. I dictated a memorandum report to Dr. Woods on the status of the publications in connection with the conference. Mr. Hermann had occasion to visit the Pan American Union and upon his return reported that the officials of the Union were under the impression there would be no Portuguese edition of the Documentary Material and had ^{me}mailed copies of the Spanish edition to Brazil.

P 4356

Family troubles

Thursday, 11 Dec., Washington; cloudy and warmer. Finished index to Final Act in four languages and completed proof reading of about 170 pages, and sent them by special messenger to the Government Printing Office. Mr. Hermann still working on the proof of the Portuguese version of Documentary Material. Dr. Cotinho had a portion of it more than a week and I asked Mr. Hermann to get it back and we would finish it.

P 4357

Family troubles

Friday, 12 Dec., Washington; clear and cold. Finished the proof of the Portuguese version of Documentary Material and sent it to the Government Printing Office. The proof reader of that office telephoned that he was confused over the indexes to the Final Act. When I called to see what the trouble was I found that they had attached the index of the report of the American delegation to the Final Act and, of course, it did not ~~coincide~~ fit.

4350 prepared the final account for salaries in connection with the conference. Had Mr. Hermann sign a resignation as required by the accounting officers, which he did very reluctantly. Poor fellow, & he had so far been unable to find any other employment.

P. 4369 On the way to the office I met Mr. Reid, commercial adviser to the Pan American Union, who said that he had an inquiry from the Russell Sage Foundation for economists to go to the Hague next spring. He said he wanted to represent commerce and had recommended me to represent agriculture. I thanked him for remembering me in that connection and said the project would appeal to me.

At the office I wrote some letters on the typewriter, Mr. Hermann being away. Received proof of the index to the report of the American delegation, revised it, and returned it to the printing office. Then I began sorting papers preparatory to closing the office on December 31.

Tuesday, 16 Dec., Washington; clear and very cold. At the office I read over the draft of my address for the Kiwanis Club. Had a few telephone calls. Then began separating files, some to be retained by myself, some to be turned over to the Department of Agriculture, and others to go to the Pan American Union. Nearly finished. Mr. Hermann came in at noon and I asked him to gather up all his papers and remove them. He ^{appeared} ~~seemed~~ to take this amiss, seeming to think he could continue to make my office his headquarters although his official service was ended. He asked if he might take some paper pads. Thinking he meant only two or three I assented. He took enough to last him several years. Then he helped himself to pencils, paper clips, and rubber bands, a good supply, until I cautioned him. By that act he forfeited my respect and my friendship. I expostulated in a disgusted tone of voice and he remarked rather coolly that the government

(1930, Dec. Washington)

E--4360

owed him more than that. I simply said, "I am sorry you feel that way about it Mr. Hermann, but my opinion is that the government owes you nothing and that probably you owe much to many people. Don't forget that I have kept you on the payroll a month longer than was absolutely necessary." "Well I worked, didn't I" was his reply. "And you were well paid for it, weren't you," was ~~my~~^{his} answer. He took up an armful of plunder and departed, and this time I was not sorry to see him go.

At the house I looked after the furnace^a and got the house nice and ~~was~~ warm. Wife very quiet and inoffensive, which was a great relief.

Wednesday, 17 Dec., Washington; partly cloudy and temperature around fifteen degrees. Not much to do at the office. Read the Kiwanis address and made an abstract of it. Walked to the house at noon to see if the ~~he~~ furnace was in order. Stopped to see a real estate agent on the way back and inquired about a small house in the northeast section I had seen advertised. I had thought that I might buy a small house with my bonds and savings and receive enough rent from the house we were living in for myself and wife to live on, so that anything I might earn would be clear. After calling at the office to see if anything needed attention I took a street car out to East Capitol Street and inspected the house. I decided that it would do very nicely but it would be well to wait until 1st January.

I took wife out to supper in the evening and while uncommunicative her porcupine quills were drawn in.

Thursday, 18 Dec., Washington; clear and cold. Snow thawing a little at noon. At the office drafted a letter notifying Miss Jenkins that I expected to have to vacate and rent the house on February first and that it would be necessary for her to move out, but decided to withhold the letter until Christmas. ^{after} Mr. Hermann

(1930, Dec. Washington)

E--4361

came in at noon for some more of ~~this~~ things. He seemed loth to leave and remained for an hour to talk. He said he had visited a dozen different public offices in the city and had been put off with polite denials. He seemed especially aggrieved at having accepted a salary of \$150 a month with me. I reminded him that he did not have to accept that salary and that I thought he should consider himself fortunate in having had such a salary, which no doubt was much larger than he had ever received in his own country. I thought any salary at all was better than no salary at a time when employment was scarce. I said frankly that I was tired of hearing his complaints regarding his employment in connection with the conference; it made me wish that I had dropped him the first of October along with other employes. I reminded him that the temporary nature of the work was fully explained to him and fully understood by him at the time he accepted the appointment. I said that he seemed glad to get it, that it had kept him and his family from want, and I believed he would be overjoyed to get a similar appointment. I said that he had my sympathy in his trying situation, but my patience was exhausted and I did not want to hear another complaint from him regarding his salary or his connection with the conference. I suggested that if he was worth \$500 a month all he had to do was to go out and get it, but in my opinion he had better take anything he could get, if it was only \$50 a month. I said that if he wanted to drop in occasionally and see me as a friend he would be welcome, but I would not listen to another unjust reproach and personally did not care to see him again. Then he apologized and was very contrite. There being nothing to do at the office I left soon after Mr. Hermann.

I called at the Civil Service Commission to inquire as to the result of Otis's examination for messenger and was told that

P 4362
Friday, 19 Dec., Washington; cloudy and cold. After writing a letter for the Secretary's signature I called at Dr. Woods' office and was told that he was at the capitol. I left word that during the remainder of the month I would be at my office in the forenoon and on leave afternoons.

Family troubles

P 4363
Saturday, 20 Dec., Washington; cloudy and warmer. At the office I wrote a letter for the signature of Dr. Woods promising to prepare an article on the agricultural conference in about two weeks. After luncheon went on a shopping trip. Tried to find the detachable cuffs I was accustomed to wearing but was told at the men's furnishing shops they had gone completely out of style and were no longer carried in stock. At the house I wrapped and tied some Christmas presents to take with me to Winworth.

Sunday, 21 Dec., Washington; clear and cool, but pleasant. I took Eunice with me to Winworth in the forenoon. The country was covered with snow from Rockville to the mountains. Sister reported that during the week the county school supervisors had come out to the schoolhouse which she had bought with its contents and took

(1930, Dec. Washington)

E--4366

Monday, 22 Dec., Washington; frosty morning, clear and cold. At the office I found the page proof of the indexes of the Final Act and the Portuguese edition of the Documentary Material. I scanned them critically and returned them the same day by messenger. Received a nice letter from Sr. Cohen, interpreter for the conference, saying that he was about to sail for Chile. Also had a letter from Mr. Simon J. Lubin regarding the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Institute and the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, which I referred to Dr. Woods for ^{his} information. Dr. Colon sent for the records I was turning over to the Pan American Union. Had a telephone call from Mr. Hermann who appeared to be in great distress. He said he had been authorized by a member of the Pan American Union to report for duty to Dr. Colon, and on doing so Dr. Colon had said he could not use him because he could not take shorthand dictation in Spanish. He said he was in despair and contemplated suing the Pan American Union for a month's salary. I suggested that it would cost money to bring a suit, that the suit would be thrown out of court as ridiculous, and it would be very much better to write a polite and courteous letter to the Director explaining what had happened.

In the afternoon I finished typing my Kiwanis address, and revised it from 26 pages down to 18.

Tuesday, 23, Dec., Washington; clear and cold. Wrote some

124369
letters at the office. Mr. Herman came over with a truck and a colored man to get the files and papers I was turning over to the Pan American Union. He said he had been put to work in Dr. Colon's division. Dr. Manger called up to ask me to attend a conference on the proposal to establish a Pan American Agricultural Bank, one of the recommendations of the conference, next Saturday. s-

At 1.30 p.m. I left for Winworth. The wind was blowing but the heater kept the car warm. In Frederick I bought a supply of oysters and crackers which we had for supper. Lewis, the hired man, spent the day patrolling Sunny Hill to prevent the stealing of planted evergreens for Christmas trees. The local paper had a good editorial about town people stealing trees from country homes and it made special mention of the Austrian pine stolen from Sunny Hill.

Thursday, 25 Dec., ~~Washington~~ Winworth; clear and very cold. Had an early breakfast of buckwheat cakes and sausage. Sister and I walked up to Mrs. Biser's above her place to deliver a message from one of her daughters. Mrs. Biser looked much older than when I saw her last and was so deaf that it was difficult to converse with her.

At 9.30 a.m. we left for Washington and made a quick run. Eunice came, and soon afterwards Thelma and Mr. Price, Otis and Ethel. Wife had prepared an excellent turkey dinner. After dinner we opened the presents. There was something for everybody.

We left at 2.30 p.m. and reached Winworth about 4 o'clock. The wood fire had gone out and the house was very cold until a new one was made. For supper we had an oyster stew and then sat about the fire for awhile, all of us rather tired, and retired early.

Friday, 26 Dec., Washington; a light drizzle, freezing as it fell. The walks and concrete roads were slippery with a thin coating of ice. I left shortly after 9 a.m. and had difficulty with the ice forming on the windshield so that I had to stop several times to scrape it off. At Frederick I put chains on the rear wheels and drove slowly to prevent skidding.

h 4371
At the office I telephoned the Government Printing Office and ascertained that the last instalment of printing for the conference would probably be delivered on January 5.

At 11 a.m. I met with a committee at the Pan American Union. Dr. Sacassa of the Nicaraguan Legation presided and the subject of discussion was the feasibility of establishing a Pan American Agricultural Bank, as recommended by the conference. Dr. Rowe reported that he had discussed the proposal with Mr. Eugene Meyer of the Federal Reserve Board and with the Solicitor of the Federal Farm Board and both had expressed the opinion that the scheme was impracticable. The only agreement reached was that Dr. Sacassa should be charged with following the matter up and perhaps go to New York and confer with bankers about it.

The State Department called up in the afternoon for information as to what documents had been printed concerning the conference. I prepared a typewritten report for Dr. Woods of the meeting held in the morning.

(1930, Dec. Winworth)

E--4375

Tuesday, 30 Dec., Winworth; clear and cool, with strong wind. I sat about the house smoking and reading until noon. I drove to Frederick and went to the Francis Scott Key Hotel. I was met by Messrs. Delaplaine and Griffiths who introduced me to the president of the Kiwanis Club. A fried oyster luncheon was served in the Blue Room with an attendance of about eighty members. After luncheon I was introduced and gave a talk on the relation of agriculture to city life. After the talk the members were very cordial and I was invited to be their guest whenever I came to Frederick. I reached Washington at 3.20 p.m. Wife was away until after 6 p.m. We took supper at a restaurant.

~~(Kiwanis address, following 27 Dec., brown folder)~~ *omit*

(1930, Dec. Washington)

E--4376

Wednesday, 31 Dec., Washington; clear and warmer. At the office I drafted an article for the Yearbook on the conference. In the afternoon I took the car to a garage to have the heater rearranged and waited two hours while the workman did it. Also went to the American Automobile Association to arrange for new license tags.

Last night Mr. Price and Thelma came to the house after we had retired and reported that Otis had been unsuccessful in obtaining employment with a general store. From them I learned that wife had been active in trying to find Otis a job and had obtained letters of introduction from several of her friends. She was away all the afternoon, 'presumably trying to find a place for Otis.

~~(Miss Jenkins, 31 Dec. following 19 Dec., brown folder)~~ omit

So ended the year 1930, the most trying and unsatisfactory I had experienced since I was a boy; squeezed out of my old bureau, taken on temporarily to organize the Inter American Conference on Agriculture, a most trying assignment but successfully accomplished; crop failure at the farm because of unprecedented drouth; uncertainty as to the future; a major business depression; property values depressed and unsalable; and worst of all, life ~~in the same house with a foolish, rebellious, defiant, badly spoiled grownup boy, and estrangement from my wife who was hostile, malignant, and vindictive.~~ My most sincere and strongest resolution for the new year was ~~that these unsatisfactory conditions would have to be changed.~~ They were unnecessary and intolerable.

(1931, Jan. Washington)

E--4382

Tuesday, 6 Jan., Washington; cloudy and moist. At the office I received a letter from Dr. Woods in answer to my memorandum, praising me for my work with the conference, saying that my connection with his office was terminated, and that he had recommended that my application for leave without pay be granted. I worked up data for making out an income tax return.

At the Farm Hands Club luncheon the deans of the agricultural colleges of Alabama and Arkansas described conditions in their States. Dr. Carleton R. Ball announced that he was leaving for California to take charge of an agricultural survey of the State for the University of California, the project to be financed by the Rockefeller Institute. Mr. Montgomery of the Department of Commerce analyzed some graphs showing 40 per cent reduction in production of steel, coal, carloadings, and other business enterprises, with practically no reduction in agricultural output. Dr. Stein^e reported that at the Cleveland meeting of economists Dr. Warren of Cornell had presented an analysis of prices running back for more than a century. Mr. Brown, the independent meteorologist, called atten^{tion} to a report of an expedition south of Tasmania to the effect that there was more than a million square miles of icefields where formerly only open water was encountered, and he said that this condition had been reported over a century^y before and was followed by a six years continuous drouth in Argentina with loss of crops and livestock, and in India by 11 years of drouth and crop failure and loss of 15,000,000 human lives.

Eunice called up to say that a young lady employed in the shop where she was had telephoned to our house to ask about rental terms and wife had replied that the house was not for rent.

In the evening Mr. and Mrs. Gage called. Wife talked very enthusiastically about Thelma and her baby but gave evasive

(1931, Jan. Washington)

E--4383

answers regarding Otis and his bride.

Wednesday, 7 Jan., Washington; clear and moderate. After breakfast I drove down to the department. For more than an hour I carried personal papers that had accumulated from my room to the car, which I transferred to my den at the house. I called at the bank and filed some papers in the safety deposit box and deposited a check transferring funds from our joint account to my personal account. For the past week I had run an advertisement in the personal column to the effect that I would not be responsible for any debts incurred by any one other than myself. I now felt that my small savings were secure. Spent an hour or more at the Cosmos Club looking over current magazines. On the way back I stopped at a general store and engaged some packing boxes.

Friday, 9 Jan., Washington; clear and cool. At the office I answered several telephone calls. Spent the forenoon finishing my income tax return. The Final Act, a publication in four languages and more than 200 pages, was delivered. I took several copies down to Dr. Woods who expressed himself as much pleased with it. He said he was trying to find a place for me. He had talked with Mr. Olsen who said he did not think I would be interested in a foreign position. I said no, unless the salary was more than the Department could afford to pay; rather than go abroad again so soon after returning to this country I would prefer to retire to my mountain retreat and play. Dr. Woods asked if I had thought of the secretaryship of the Federal Farm Board which was about to become vacant by the resignation of Mr. Christianson. I said that a position with the Farm Board would appeal to me more than the salary. Dr. Woods called in his secretary and dictated a nice letter to Mr. Christianson recommending me highly for the position.

Soon after returning to my room the printed copies of the Report of the American Delegation were delivered.

(1931, Jan. Washington)

E--4387

Saturday, 10 Jan., Washington; clear and moderate. At the office I worked steadily inserting bulletins in envelopes for mailing out. Had^d the Mailing Division send a man and a truck up for them.

~~I reached the house at 4 o'clock and found it deserted, the fire very low, and the temperature low.~~

Monday, 12 Jan., Washington; a cold drizzle all day. At the office I wrote a memorandum of detailed instructions for Dr. Woods' secretary so that she would know exactly how to look after any mail or requests concerning the conference. I talked by telephone with the man at the Government Printing Office in charge of the Portuguese edition of the Documentary Material which he said could not be completed before the end of the month. I left instructions that it should be delivered at the Pan American Union for distribution. This left nothing for me to do to close out the work of the Inter American Conference on Agriculture. It seemed hardly possible that there should have been enough work to have kept me busy for more than three months after the conference closed, but so it was, largely due to the time it took to get material through the Government Printing Office.

I spent the afternoon packing books. Received a nice letter from Dr. Rowe, Director of the Pan American Union, complimenting me on the Report of the American Delegation, a bulletin of nearly two hundred pages that I had prepared as a permanent record of the Inter-American Conference on Agriculture.

~~Tuesday, 13 Jan., Washington; clear and cold. After breakfast I called at the real estate office about advertising the house for rent. The clerk in charge had reported that the advertising manager had called up my house telephone number and my wife had told him most emphatically that the house was not for rent. I saw the~~

